Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives

Agriculture, Alimentation et Initiatives rurales Manitoba

Annual Report 2008 - 2009

Rapport annuel 2008 - 2009

Manitoba

Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives

Room 165
Legislative Building
Winnipeg, Manitoba, CANADA
R3C 0V8

The Honourable Philip Lee
Lieutenant-Governor of Manitoba
Room 235 Legislative Building
Winnipeg Manitoba R3C 0V8

May It Please Your Honour:

I have the privilege of presenting for your review the Annual Report of Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives for the year ending March 31, 2009.

Respectfully submitted,

Rosann Wowchuk

Honourable Rosann Wowchuk
Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives

Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives

Room 165
Legislative Building
Winnipeg, Manitoba, CANADA
R3C 0V8

Son Honneur l'honorable Philip Lee
Lieutenant-gouverneur du Manitoba
Palais législatif, bureau 235
Winnipeg, Manitoba
R3C 0V8

Monsieur le Lieutenant-Gouverneur,

J'ai le privilège de présenter à Votre Honneur, à des fins d'examen, le rapport annuel du ministère de l'Agriculture, de l'Alimentation et des Initiatives rurales du Manitoba pour l'exercice terminé le 31 mars 2009.

C'est avec respect, Monsieur le Lieutenant-Gouverneur, que je vous soumets le présent document.

La ministre de l'Agriculture, de l'Alimentation et des Initiatives rurales,

Rosann Wowchuk

Manitoba

Deputy Minister of
Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives

Room 159
Legislative Building
Winnipeg, Manitoba CANADA
R3C 0V8
(204) 945-3734

Honourable Rosann Wowchuk
Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives
Province of Manitoba

Madam,

I am pleased to present the annual report for the Manitoba Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives for the year ending March 31, 2009.

We are proud of the support we provide to the agriculture industry in the form of business risk management programming, extension services, policy leadership, and a wide range of services and programs to help increase farm profitability. This past year we also have risen to the pressing challenge of assisting producers to overcome the effects of overland flooding, drought, and poor economic returns in the livestock industry.

We continue supporting value-added food processing and promoting locally produced food, as a way to assist producers find new markets for their commodities and to help Manitobans find healthy, alternate food sources. We also lead the country in a variety of animal disease surveillance initiatives and the continued development of a food traceability system, in order to protect our food supply and enhance local consumer confidence in Manitoba's food system.

Another important priority that benefits producers, consumers and all Manitobans is the assistance we provide to the agriculture industry in preserving our air, soil and water resources. We recently launched a $2 million Sustainable Agricultural Practices Program, increased research funding by $1 million for greenhouse gas mitigation in the agriculture industry, and delivered another year of the successful Environmental Farm Planning program.

We also continued our rigorous efforts to facilitate economic development and sustainability in rural Manitoba communities with almost $1 million in grants to regional development corporations, Hometown Manitoba renovation projects and agricultural societies. In addition, we are working with the co-operative movement, rural young people, and rural business who all will play a part in the future of a vibrant rural Manitoba.

Finally, we have reached an agreement with the federal government and our provincial/territorial partners on the Growing Forward agreement that will bring to fruition innovative new programming to benefit the agri-food industry and rural Manitobans.

Respectfully submitted,

Barry Todd
Deputy Minister

Manitoba

Agriculture, Alimentation et Initiatives rurales

Sous-ministre
Bureau 159, Palais législatif, Winnipeg, Manitoba, R3C 0V8
Tél. 204-945-3734 **Téléc.** 204-948-2095
http://www.gov.mb.ca/agriculture/help/french.html

Madame Rosann Wowchuk
Ministre de l'Agriculture, de l'Alimentation et des Initiatives rurales
Province du Manitoba

Madame la Ministre,

J'ai l'honneur de vous présenter le rapport annuel du ministère de l'Agriculture, de l'Alimentation et des Initiatives rurales du Manitoba pour l'exercice terminé le 31 mars 2009.

Nous sommes fiers du soutien que nous fournissons à l'industrie agricole au moyen de programmes de gestion du risque commercial, de services de vulgarisation, de leadership en matière de politiques et d'une vaste gamme de services et de programmes visant à accroître la rentabilité des exploitations agricoles. Au cours du dernier exercice, nous avons également trouvé des solutions à un problème pressant qui consistait à aider les producteurs à contrer les effets des inondations, de la sécheresse et des faibles revenus dans l'industrie du bétail.

Nous continuons d'appuyer la transformation à valeur ajoutée des produits alimentaires et de promouvoir les aliments produits à l'échelle locale afin d'aider les producteurs à trouver de nouveaux marchés pour leurs denrées et d'aider les Manitobains et Manitobaines à trouver de nouvelles sources de nourriture saine. Le Manitoba est également chef de file au pays dans les différentes initiatives de surveillance des maladies des animaux et le développement continu d'un système de traçabilité des aliments, afin de protéger notre approvisionnement alimentaire et d'accroître la confiance des consommateurs locaux dans le système alimentaire de notre province.

L'aide que nous fournissons à l'industrie agricole afin de préserver nos ressources en air, en sols et en eau constitue une autre priorité importante qui bénéficie aux producteurs, aux consommateurs et à l'ensemble de la population manitobaine. Nous avons récemment lancé un programme de pratiques d'agriculture durable de deux millions de dollars, haussé d'un million de dollars le financement de la recherche pour la réduction des gaz à effet de serre dans l'industrie agricole et offert le Programme de planification environnementale à la ferme, qui est très réussi, pendant une autre année.

Nous continuons à déployer des efforts énergiques pour faciliter le développement et la durabilité économiques dans les communautés rurales du Manitoba grâce à des subventions totalisant près d'un million de dollars aux sociétés de développement régional, aux projets de rénovation de Fiers chez nous et aux sociétés agricoles. Nous entretenons une collaboration étroite avec le mouvement coopératif, les jeunes des régions rurales et les entreprises rurales, qui joueront tous un rôle important dans l'avenir d'un Manitoba rural dynamique.

Finalement, nous avons conclu une entente avec le gouvernement fédéral et nos partenaires provinciaux et territoriaux au sujet de l'accord-cadre *Cultivons l'avenir*. Cette entente permettra de réaliser de nouveaux programmes novateurs qui bénéficieront à l'industrie agroalimentaire et à la population manitobaine des régions rurales.

C'est avec respect, Madame la Ministre, que je vous soumets le présent document.

Le sous-ministre,
Barry Todd

TABLE OF CONTENTS

TITLE	PAGE
Organization Chart (*Organigramme*)	1 (2)
Executive, Directors and Managers (*Haute Direction)*	3 (4)
Preface (*Préface*)	5 (10)
Highlights 08/09 (*Rehauts 08/09*)	15 (18)
SECTION ONE – PART A – PROGRAM AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION	23
Appropriation 1 – Policy and Management	24
1 (a) Minister's Salary	24
1 (b) Executive Support	25
1 (c) Strategic Planning Directorate	26
1 (d) Policy Analysis	29
1 (e) Knowledge Management	32
1 (f) Boards, Commissions and Legislation	35
1 (g) Financial and Administrative Services	39
1 (h) Human Resource Management Services	44
Appropriation 2 – Risk Management, Credit and Income Support Programs	46
2 (a) Manitoba Agricultural Services Corporation	46
2 (b) Agricultural Income Stabilization	48
2 (c) Food Industry Development	50
2 (d) Farmland School Tax Rebate	52
2 (e) Less: Recoverable from Rural Economic Development Initiatives	53
Appropriation 3 – Agri-Industry Development and Innovation	54
3 (a) Livestock Industry	54
3 (b) Chief Veterinary Office/Food Safety	63
3 (c) Crop Industry	72
3 (d) Agri-Environment	80
3 (e) Land Use	84
3 (f) Agri-Food Innovation and Adaptation	89
3 (g) Agri-Food Research and Development Initiative	92
3 (h) Grant to the University of Manitoba	94
3 (i) Grant to the Prairie Agricultural Machinery Institute	95
3 (j) Agricultural Sustainability Initiative	97
3 (k) Irrigation Development	100
3 (l) Less: Recoverable from Rural Economic Development Initiatives	102
Appropriation 4 – Agri-Food and Rural Development	103
4 (a) Growing Opportunities Centres	103
4 (b) Economy and Rural Development	112
4 (c) Food Development Centre	120
4 (d) Food Commercialization and Marketing	124
4 (e) Infrastructure Development Grants	128
4 (f) Less: Recoverable from Rural Economic Development Initiatives	130
4 (g) Rural Economic Development Initiatives	131
Appropriation 5 – Costs Related to Capital Assets	136

SECTION ONE – PART B – CAPITAL INVESTMENTS 137

SECTION TWO – ADDITIONAL FINANCIAL INFORMATION AND APPENDICES 139

Appendix A: Expenditure Summary
for the Fiscal Year Ended March 31, 2009 140

Appendix B: Reconciliation Statements 146

Appendix C: Distribution by Main Appropriation: Expenditures 147

Appendix D: Percentage Distribution of Salaries & Employee Benefits
and Full Time Equivalents 148

Appendix E: Revenue Summary
for the Fiscal Year Ended March 31, 2009 149

Appendix F: Five-Year Expenditure History
for Years Ending March 31, 2005 to March 31, 2009 151

Appendix G: Five-Year Expenditure and Staffing Summary by Main Appropriation
for Years Ending March 31, 2005 to March 31, 2009 152

Appendix H: Statutory Responsibilities
of the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives 154

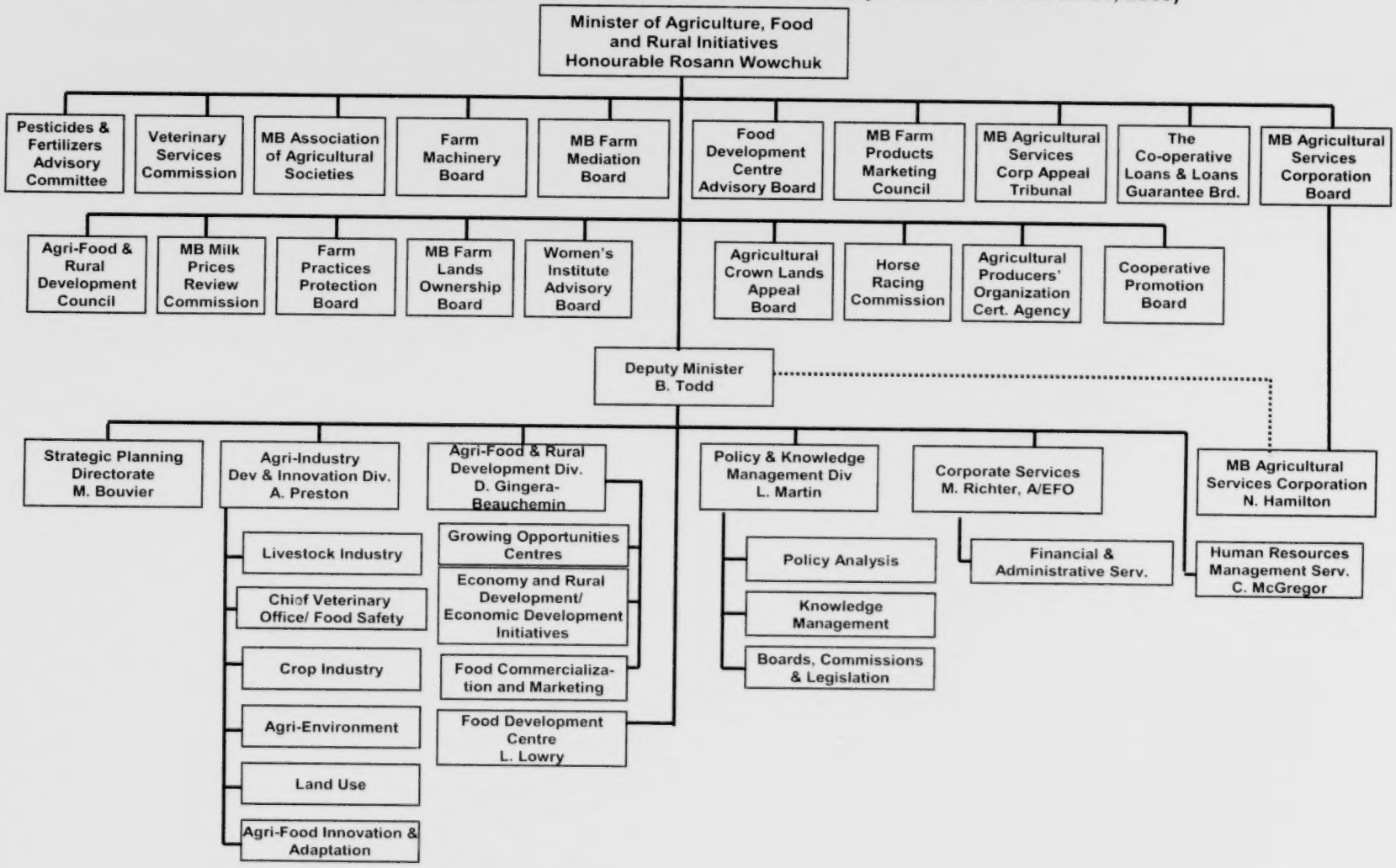
Appendix I: Performance Indicators 155

Appendix J: Public Interest Disclosure (Whistleblower Protection) Act 161

Appendix K: Sustainable Development Integration 162

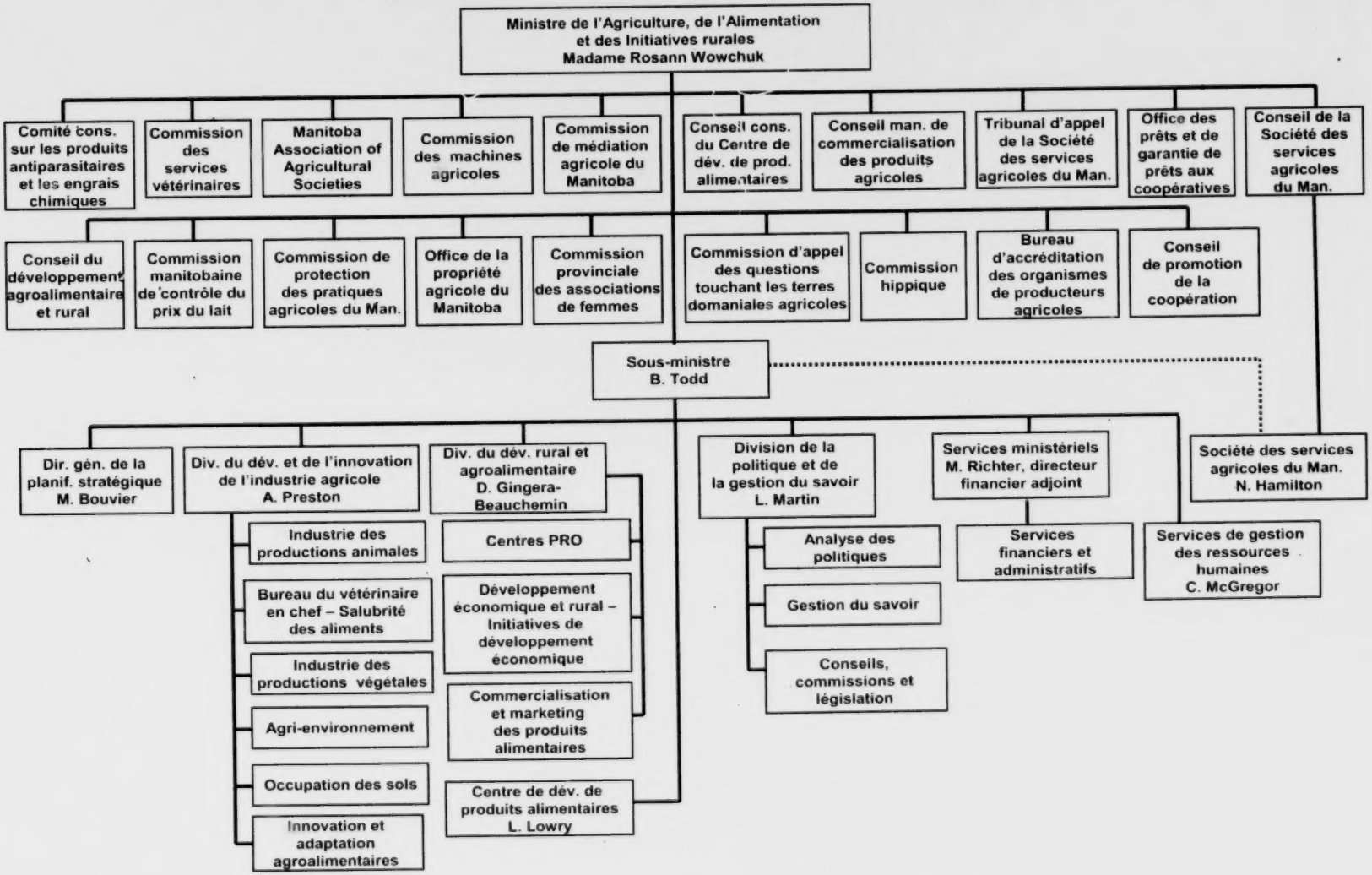
Organization Chart of Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives

(This organization chart depicts the status of the department as at March 31, 2009)


Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives Honourable Rosann Wowchuk
Pesticides & Fertilizers Advisory Committee
Veterinary Services Commission
MB Association of Agricultural Societies
Farm Machinery Board
MB Farm Mediation Board
Food Development Centre Advisory Board
MB Farm Products Marketing Council
MB Agricultural Services Corp Appeal Tribunal
The Co-operative Loans & Loans Guarantee Brd.
MB Agricultural Services Corporation Board
Agri-Food & Rural Development Council
MB Milk Prices Review Commission
Farm Practices Protection Board
MB Farm Lands Ownership Board
Women's Institute Advisory Board
Agricultural Crown Lands Appeal Board
Horse Racing Commission
Agricultural Producers' Organization Cert. Agency
Cooperative Promotion Board
Deputy Minister B. Todd
Strategic Planning Directorate M. Bouvier
Agri-Industry Dev & Innovation Div. A. Preston
Agri-Food & Rural Development Div. D. Gingera-Beauchemin
Policy & Knowledge Management Div L. Martin
Corporate Services M. Richter, A/EFO
MB Agricultural Services Corporation N. Hamilton
Livestock Industry
Chief Veterinary Office/ Food Safety
Crop Industry
Agri-Environment
Land Use
Agri-Food Innovation & Adaptation
Growing Opportunities Centres
Economy and Rural Development/ Economic Development Initiatives
Food Commercializa-tion and Marketing
Food Development Centre L. Lowry
Policy Analysis
Knowledge Management
Boards, Commissions & Legislation
Financial & Administrative Serv.
Human Resources Management Serv. C. McGregor

Organigramme d'Agriculture, Alimentation et Initiatives rurales Manitoba

(L'organigramme décrit l'état du ministère au 31 mars 2009)


Ministre de l'Agriculture, de l'Alimentation et des Initiatives rurales
Madame Rosann Wowchuk
Comité cons. sur les produits antiparasitaires et les engrais chimiques
Commission des services vétérinaires
Manitoba Association of Agricultural Societies
Commission des machines agricoles
Commission de médiation agricole du Manitoba
Conseil cons. du Centre de dév. de prod. alimentaires
Conseil man. de commercialisation des produits agricoles
Tribunal d'appel de la Société des services agricoles du Man.
Office des prêts et de garantie de prêts aux coopératives
Conseil de la Société des services agricoles du Man.
Conseil du développement agroalimentaire et rural
Commission manitobaine de contrôle du prix du lait
Commission de protection des pratiques agricoles du Man.
Office de la propriété agricole du Manitoba
Commission provinciale des associations de femmes
Commission d'appel des questions touchant les terres domaniales agricoles
Commission hippique
Bureau d'accréditation des organismes de producteurs agricoles
Conseil de promotion de la coopération
Sous-ministre
B. Todd
Dir. gén. de la planif. stratégique
M. Bouvier
Div. du dév. et de l'innovation de l'industrie agricole
A. Preston
Div. du dév. rural et agroalimentaire
D. Gingera-Beauchemin
Industrie des productions animales
Bureau du vétérinaire en chef – Salubrité des aliments
Industrie des productions végétales
Agri-environnement
Occupation des sols
Innovation et adaptation agroalimentaires
Centres PRO
Développement économique et rural – Initiatives de développement économique
Commercialisation et marketing des produits alimentaires
Centre de dév. de produits alimentaires
L. Lowry
Division de la politique et de la gestion du savoir
L. Martin
Analyse des politiques
Gestion du savoir
Conseils, commissions et législation
Services ministériels
M. Richter, directeur financier adjoint
Services financiers et administratifs
Société des services agricoles du Man.
N. Hamilton
Services de gestion des ressources humaines
C. McGregor

MANITOBA AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND RURAL INITIATIVES

Executive

Honourable Rosann Wowchuk, Minister

B. Todd, Deputy Minister

A. Preston, Assistant Deputy Minister
Agri-Industry Development and Innovation Division

D. Gingera-Beauchemin, Assistant Deputy Minister
Agri-Food and Rural Development Division

L. Martin, Assistant Deputy Minister
Policy and Knowledge Management Division

M. Richter, A/Executive Financial Officer

M. Bouvier, Executive Director
Strategic Planning Directorate

N. Hamilton, President and Chief Executive Officer
Manitoba Agricultural Services Corporation

L. Lowry, General Manager and Chief Operating Officer
Food Development Centre

AGRICULTURE, ALIMENTATION ET INITIATIVES RURALES MANITOBA

Haute direction

Madame Rosann Wowchuk, ministre

B. Todd, sous-ministre

A. Preston, sous-ministre adjoint
Division du développement et de l'innovation de l'industrie agricole

D. Gingera-Beauchemin, sous-ministre adjointe
Division du développement rural et agroalimentaire

L. Martin, sous-ministre adjoint
Division de la politique et de la gestion du savoir

M. Richter, directeur financier par intérim

M. Bouvier, directeur général
Direction générale de la planification stratégique

N. Hamilton, président-directeur général
Société des services agricoles du Manitoba

L. Lowry, directrice générale et chef de l'exploitation
Centre de développement de produits alimentaires

PREFACE

Purpose and Organization of the Annual Report

This report was prepared by Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives (MAFRI) to summarize the activities and accomplishments of the department during the 2008/09 fiscal year. The report is divided into two major sections:

- **Section One** includes Part A – Program and Financial Information organized in accordance with the departmental appropriation structure, and Part B – Capital Investment.
- **Section Two** contains all appendices such as summary financial tables, Ministerial statutory responsibilities, performance indicators, information on *The Public Interest Disclosure (Whistleblower Protection) Act* and sustainable development activities.

This report is presented according to the financial organization of the department, and is not necessarily organized according to programs and services.

Mission

The department's mission statement describes a commitment to strengthen the rural and northern Manitoban economies and improve the quality of life of its citizens. The mission statement also provides the means used by the department to achieve its objectives.

> *MAFRI works with agriculture producers, other entrepreneurs, and rural and northern communities to accelerate their greater prosperity and capacity. We do this by providing leadership and a range of information, programs and services in support of vibrant rural and northern communities.*

Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives plays an important role in supporting the overall provincial strategic priorities of building our economy and communities; promoting healthy living; promoting a cleaner, healthier environment; developing our clean energy advantage; and keeping Manitoba affordable.

Our Vision

The department's vision provides an overview of a desired and achievable state of the province's agriculture and food industries as well as rural and northern communities. The vision stated below declares what this department is striving to achieve while working with our farming, industry and community partners.

> *Through agricultural, food and non-agricultural development, rural and northern Manitobans have transformed Manitoba's economy by:*
>
> - *seizing leading-edge business opportunities to capitalize on available natural resources and advantages in a sustainable manner*
> - *working together to build communities that can imagine and act upon future opportunities, and*
> - *driving future development based on understanding and utilization of market intelligence.*
>
> *Agriculture is a leading solution provider to this transformation, providing:*
>
> - *profitable primary agriculture*

- *increased economic activity and investment to sustain and grow rural communities*
- *opportunities to add value to Manitoba-produced commodities for food, animal feed, bio-energy, biofibre and other uses*
- *products, such as nutraceuticals, functional foods and pharmaceuticals, to increase the health and wellness of Manitobans and the world, and*
- *solutions to enhancing environmental sustainability in Manitoba.*

Philosophy and Values

The department's philosophy and values reflect a fundamental commitment to the present and future prosperity of the agriculture and food sectors and rural and northern communities.

We believe in rural and northern Manitoba – its agricultural producers, businesses, communities and youth.

The people of rural and northern Manitoba are the key drivers in creating a prosperous future for their communities and for the province as a whole. Rural and northern Manitobans are capable and innovative and will make it happen.

Family farms form the backbone of Manitoba's agri-food industry.

The present and future strength of our agri-food industry is centred on family farms. These farms provide much more than the value of the products they produce; they underpin the value-added processing sector and are key contributors to local economic and community vibrancy.

We promote community-centred development.

Strong communities are created by the efforts of many. We strive to support these efforts and empower communities and individuals to lead local economic development.

Profitable agricultural production is a foundation for rural communities.

Profitable farms are significant contributors to both the economic and social well-being of rural communities, providing wealth creation, jobs and inputs into value-added activities.

Agriculture, food and rural and northern economic development are key parts of Manitoba's present and future economic prosperity.

Rural and northern Manitoba are significant contributors to the economic well-being of Manitoba. Society is looking for solutions to achieve environmental sustainability, create renewable energy and improve the health of its populations, among many other objectives. Rural and northern entrepreneurs are providing those solutions.

We are proactive, action-oriented and innovative in seeking our vision.

Staff of the department share a commitment to create vibrant rural communities. Our skills and drive create meaningful and lasting results.

We accomplish more through partnerships and consultation with producers, industry and communities.

The department is committed to working with industry stakeholders, community leaders and entrepreneurs to gain knowledge and insight in the development of programming and services that will support the agri-food industry and rural and northern development.

We provide unbiased technical advice.

The department is proud of the skill level and professionalism of our employees. As we work with clients, we draw upon this high level of skill and professionalism to ensure that the advice given to clients is sound and beneficial.

We are fiscally responsible.

We are entrusted with managing funds and other resources contributed by the public we serve. At all levels, we are committed to ensuring that we make the most effective and efficient use of the public resources entrusted to our care.

Strategic Priorities

Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives has a broad mandate to serve the agri-food industry and rural and northern communities. Within that mandate, the department has articulated five strategic priorities that focus the department's efforts.

Farm Profitability

The department seeks to increase the profitability of Manitoba farms through market development, diversification, capturing higher value from traditional and new crops, controlling production costs, adaptation of production technologies, managing risk and providing affordable loan products. The department strives to support the renewal of the agricultural sector through the promotion of opportunities to Aboriginal populations, immigrants and young people and women.

This priority supports the following overall government priorities:

- Building our economy, building our communities
- Keeping Manitoba affordable
- Improving education and training opportunities for young people here at home

Value Added

Adding value to the outputs of primary agricultural production and the abundant natural resources possessed by rural and northern Manitobans builds wealth, creates employment and contributes to vibrant communities. The department focuses its support to entrepreneurs to accelerate the commercialization of Manitoba-made food, food ingredients, functional food and nutraceutical products, and bioproducts that meet the needs of the consumer. In addition, the department supports strategic capital and infrastructure development that will develop Manitoba's value-added sector.

This priority supports the following overall government priorities:

- Building our economy, building our communities
- Developing our clean energy advantage for the benefit of all Manitobans
- Delivering quality health care and promoting healthy living
- Improving education and training opportunities for young people here at home

Rural Economic Development

Community leadership and citizen involvement are key factors in community economic development. The department provides programming and services to build the capacity of individuals and communities so that they can increase business activity and wealth creation that will drive local economic development and develop a culture of entrepreneurship. In addition, the department seeks to increase participation of Aboriginal people, women, youth and immigrants in developing rural businesses.
This priority supports the following overall government priorities:

- Building our economy, building our communities
- Developing our clean energy advantage for the benefit of all Manitobans

- Improving education and training opportunities for young people here at home

Environmental Sustainability

Society is demanding that agriculture and other businesses operate in an environmentally responsible and sustainable manner. We support the agri-food sector in improving its environmental stewardship, sustainability practices, and developing climate change adaptation and mitigation strategies and protecting Manitoba's water.

This priority supports the following overall government priorities:

- Promoting a cleaner, healthier environment
- Developing our clean energy advantage for the benefit of all Manitobans
- Building our economy, building our communities

Health and Wellness

Manitobans are increasingly focused on issues affecting health and wellness. The department supports the consumption of Manitoba-produced healthy foods; supports research to provide linkages between food and health; enhances the safety of Manitoba's food systems; protects human health from zoonotic diseases, animal health from serious diseases and the welfare of domestic animals.

This priority supports the following overall government priorities:

- Delivering quality health care and promoting healthy living
- Promoting a cleaner, healthier environment
- Building our economy, building our communities

Performance Indicators

Performance indicators in departmental annual reports provide Manitobans with meaningful and useful information about the outcomes of government's activities along with financial results. Some measures incorporate data collected by the provincial government, while others show data that is collected by external agencies.

The department currently tracks six indicators in support of the five priorities identified in the strategic plan. The department continues to develop and refine its performance indicators at the knowledge centre and GO team level in order to illustrate the outcomes achieved through their efforts.

For MAFRI's Performance Indicators refer to Appendix I.

Motivating Employee Performance and Development

Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives is committed to the development and well-being of our employees. In 2008/09, the department began implementing the government's learning policy to support the continuous learning of all employees and to create an environment that encourages and recognizes the value of both informal and formal learning. The learning policy builds on the department's long term investments in strengthening the skills of employees through formal training opportunities, assignments, secondments and other related means. In addition, the department continues to support a work-life balance policy that recognizes the balance between work and life in order to recruit and retain qualified and motivated employees.

We also believe in recognizing the efforts of employees. A formal peer recognition program forms the basis of the strategy. Under the program, individuals, or teams of employees, are recognized and rewarded for their achievements. The *Working Together for Success* program annually invites employees to nominate fellow employees for special recognition and celebration. Department staff members on the steering committee develop the award criteria, choose the number and types of awards, and vote on the recipients.

The department uses these strategies, as well as other measures, to motivate staff, boost morale and enhance services for our clients.

Internet Site

The department's annual report and details on its many programs and services can be found on Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives' Internet site; www.gov.mb.ca/agriculture. A French language version of the 2008/09 Annual Report is included on this website.

PRÉFACE

But et organisation du rapport annuel

Le présent rapport a été préparé par le ministère de l'Agriculture, de l'Alimentation et des Initiatives rurales du Manitoba (le « Ministère ») et il résume les activités et les réalisations du Ministère au cours de l'exercice financier 2008-2009. Le rapport comprend deux sections principales :

- La **section un** comprend la partie A, qui traite des renseignements sur les programmes et les finances, conformément à la structure des crédits du Ministère, et la partie B, qui porte sur les investissements en immobilisations.
- La **section deux** contient toutes les annexes, y compris les états financiers récapitulatifs, les responsabilités législatives du Ministère, les indicateurs de performance, des renseignements sur la *Loi sur les divulgations faites dans l'intérêt public (protection des divulgateurs d'actes répréhensibles)* et les activités de développement durable.

Le présent rapport est présenté en fonction de l'organisation financière du Ministère et non nécessairement en fonction de ses programmes et services.

Mission

L'énoncé de mission du Ministère indique un engagement à renforcer les économies rurales et du Nord du Manitoba et à améliorer la qualité de vie des habitants de ces régions. L'énoncé de mission présente aussi les moyens utilisés par le Ministère pour atteindre ses objectifs.

> *Le Ministère collabore avec les producteurs agricoles, d'autres entrepreneurs, et les collectivités rurales et du Nord en vue d'accélérer la croissance de leur prospérité et de leur capacité. Le Ministère concrétise sa mission en fournissant un leadership et une gamme de renseignements, de programmes et de services qui soutiennent le dynamisme des collectivités rurales et du Nord.*

Le Ministère joue un rôle important dans le soutien des priorités stratégiques globales du gouvernement provincial en matière de développement de l'économie et des collectivités, de promotion de la vie saine et d'un environnement plus propre et sain, de mise en valeur de notre avantage en matière d'énergie propre et de maintien du caractère abordable de la vie au Manitoba.

Notre vision

L'énoncé de vision du Ministère offre un aperçu de l'état souhaité et atteignable de l'industrie agroalimentaire de la province, ainsi que des collectivités rurales et du Nord. La vision indiquée ci-dessous présente les objectifs que s'efforce d'atteindre le Ministère en collaboration avec ses partenaires des milieux agricoles, industriels et communautaires.

> *Grâce au développement agricole, alimentaire et non agricole, les résidents du Manitoba rural et du nord de la province transforment l'économie du Manitoba comme suit :*
>
> - *en tirant parti des possibilités d'affaires d'avant-garde afin de profiter d'une manière viable des ressources naturelles et des avantages disponibles*
> - *en collaborant en vue de bâtir des collectivités qui peuvent imaginer les possibilités futures et en profiter*
> - *en orientant le développement futur en fonction de la compréhension et de l'utilisation de l'information commerciale.*
>
> *L'agriculture est un chef de file de l'élaboration de solutions pour une telle transformation en offrant ce qui suit :*

- *un secteur agricole primaire rentable*
- *un accroissement de l'activité économique et des investissements afin d'assurer la viabilité et la croissance des collectivités rurales*
- *des possibilités d'ajouter de la valeur aux denrées manitobaines produites à des fins alimentaires humaines et animales, bioénergétiques, textiles biologiques et autres*
- *des produits tels que les nutraceutiques, les aliments fonctionnels et les produits pharmaceutiques, en vue d'accroître la santé et le mieux-être des Manitobains et du monde entier*
- *des solutions qui visent à rehausser la durabilité de l'environnement au Manitoba.*

Philosophie et valeurs

La philosophie et les valeurs du Ministère reposent sur un engagement fondamental en faveur de la prospérité présente et future du secteur agricole et agroalimentaire et des collectivités rurales et du Nord.

Nous croyons dans le Manitoba rural et du Nord – ses producteurs agricoles, ses entreprises, ses collectivités et sa jeunesse.

Les résidents des régions rurales et du Nord sont les éléments clés de la création d'un avenir prospère pour leurs collectivités et pour l'ensemble de la province. Les Manitobains ruraux et du Nord sont habiles et innovateurs et ils atteindront cet objectif.

Les exploitations agricoles familiales sont l'épine dorsale de l'industrie agroalimentaire du Manitoba.

La force présente et future de notre industrie agroalimentaire repose sur les exploitations agricoles familiales. Ces exploitations offrent beaucoup plus que la valeur de leurs produits; elles soutiennent le secteur de la transformation à valeur ajoutée et contribuent de manière importante au dynamisme des collectivités et de l'économie locales.

Nous favorisons le développement communautaire.

La création de collectivités fortes exige les efforts de nombreuses personnes. Nous visons à soutenir ces efforts et à habiliter les collectivités et les particuliers à diriger le développement économique local.

Une production agricole rentable est une assise pour les collectivités rurales.

Des exploitations agricoles rentables fournissent une contribution importante au bien-être économique et social des collectivités rurales en offrant des possibilités de création de richesse et d'emplois et des possibilités d'apport à des activités à valeur ajoutée.

Le développement économique du secteur agricole et alimentaire et des collectivités rurales et du Nord est un élément clé de la prospérité économique présente et future du Manitoba.

Les régions rurales et du Nord fournissent une contribution importante au bien-être économique du Manitoba. La société est à la recherche de solutions, entre autres, pour assurer la durabilité de l'environnement, créer de l'énergie renouvelable et améliorer la santé de la population. Les entrepreneurs ruraux et du Nord proposent de telles solutions.

Nous sommes proactifs, axés sur l'action et innovateurs dans la poursuite de notre vision.

Le personnel du Ministère affiche un engagement en faveur de la création de collectivités rurales dynamiques. Nos compétences et notre dynamisme produisent des résultats fructueux et durables.

Nous accroissons la portée de nos actions grâce à des partenariats et à des consultations avec les producteurs, l'industrie et les collectivités.

Le Ministère s'est engagé à collaborer avec les intervenants du secteur, les chefs de file communautaires et les entrepreneurs afin de mieux connaître et comprendre l'élaboration de programmes et de services qui soutiendront l'industrie agroalimentaire et le développement rural et du Nord.

Nous offrons des conseils techniques exempts de parti pris.

Le Ministère est fier du niveau de compétence et du professionnalisme de ses employés. Lorsque nous travaillons avec des clients, nous tirons parti d'un niveau élevé de compétence et de professionnalisme pour veiller à ce que les conseils donnés aux clients soient judicieux et avantageux.

Nous sommes responsables sur le plan financier.

Nous sommes chargés de la gestion de fonds et de ressources contribués par le public que nous desservons. À tous les niveaux, nous sommes déterminés à maximiser l'efficacité des ressources publiques qui nous ont été confiées.

Priorités stratégiques

Le mandat général du Ministère consiste à desservir l'industrie agroalimentaire et les collectivités rurales et du Nord. Dans le cadre de ce mandat, le Ministère a mis de l'avant cinq priorités stratégiques qui orientent ses efforts.

Rentabilité des exploitations agricoles

Le Ministère cherche à accroître la rentabilité des exploitations agricoles manitobaines par le développement du marché, la diversification, l'obtention de valeur plus élevée pour les cultures traditionnelles et nouvelles, le contrôle des coûts de production, l'adaptation des technologies de production, la gestion du risque et l'offre de produits de prêts abordables. Le Ministère s'efforce aussi de soutenir le renouvellement du secteur agricole en faisant la promotion des possibilités auprès des populations autochtones, des immigrants, des jeunes et des femmes.

Cette priorité soutient les priorités globales du gouvernement suivantes :

- bâtir notre économie et nos communautés
- maintenir un coût de vie abordable au Manitoba
- améliorer les possibilités d'éducation et d'apprentissage pour les jeunes dans la province

Valorisation

L'ajout de valeur aux extrants de la production agricole primaire et aux abondantes ressources naturelles que possèdent les régions rurales et du Nord permet d'accumuler de la richesse, de créer des emplois et de contribuer au dynamisme des collectivités. Le Ministère concentre son soutien sur les entrepreneurs pour accélérer la commercialisation des aliments, des ingrédients, des produits alimentaires fonctionnels et nutraceutiques, et des bioproduits faits au Manitoba, qui répondent aux besoins des consommateurs. En outre, le Ministère appuie le développement stratégique des immobilisations et de l'infrastructure qui permettra d'élargir le secteur à valeur ajoutée du Manitoba.

Cette priorité soutient les priorités globales du gouvernement suivantes :

- bâtir notre économie et nos communautés
- développer notre avantage en matière d'énergie propre au profit de tous les Manitobains et Manitobaines

- offrir des soins de santé de qualité et promouvoir des modes de vie sains
- améliorer les possibilités d'éducation et d'apprentissage pour les jeunes dans la province

Développement économique rural

Le leadership communautaire et la participation des citoyens jouent un rôle clé dans le développement économique communautaire. Le Ministère offre des programmes et des services qui visent à renforcer la capacité des personnes et des collectivités afin qu'elles puissent augmenter les activités commerciales et la création de richesses, ce qui stimulera le développement économique local et favorisera une culture d'entreprenariat. Aussi, le Ministère vise à accroître la participation des Autochtones, des femmes, des jeunes et des immigrants dans le développement d'entreprises en régions rurales.

Cette priorité soutient les priorités globales du gouvernement suivantes :

- bâtir notre économie et nos communautés
- développer notre avantage en matière d'énergie propre au profit de tous les Manitobains et Manitobaines
- améliorer les possibilités d'éducation et d'apprentissage pour les jeunes dans la province

Viabilité de l'environnement

La société demande que l'agriculture et d'autres secteurs industriels pratiquent leurs activités d'une manière viable et respectueuse de l'environnement. Nous soutenons le secteur agroalimentaire dans l'amélioration de sa gérance de l'environnement et de ses pratiques de viabilité, dans l'élaboration de stratégies d'adaptation au changement climatique et d'atténuation de celui-ci et dans la protection des eaux au Manitoba.

Cette priorité soutient les priorités globales du gouvernement suivantes :

- promouvoir un environnement plus propre et plus sain
- développer notre avantage en matière d'énergie propre au profit de tous les Manitobains et Manitobaines
- bâtir notre économie et nos communautés

Santé et mieux-être

La population manitobaine est de plus en plus attentive aux questions qui touchent la santé et le mieux-être. Le Ministère soutient la consommation des aliments sains produits au Manitoba, appuie la recherche pour établir des liens entre l'alimentation et la santé, et renforce la sécurité des systèmes alimentaires du Manitoba. En outre, il protège la santé humaine contre les zoonoses, la santé animale contre les maladies graves et le bien-être des animaux domestiques.

Cette priorité soutient les priorités globales du gouvernement suivantes :

- offrir des soins de santé de qualité et promouvoir dés modes de vie sains
- promouvoir un environnement plus propre et plus sain
- bâtir notre économie et nos communautés

Indicateurs de performance

Les indicateurs de performance publiés dans les rapports annuels des ministères fournissent aux Manitobains des renseignements significatifs et utiles sur les activités du gouvernement, en complément aux résultats financiers. Certaines mesures intègrent des données recueillies par le gouvernement provincial, tandis que d'autres présentent des données collectées par des organismes extérieurs au gouvernement.

Le Ministère assure le suivi de six indicateurs en soutien aux cinq priorités indiquées dans le plan stratégique. Le Ministère continue d'élaborer et de perfectionner ses indicateurs de performance à l'échelle des centres de compétence et des équipes Profitons des possibilités de croissance en vue d'illustrer les résultats obtenus grâce à leurs efforts.

On trouvera les indicateurs de performance du Ministère à l'annexe I.

Stimuler le rendement et le perfectionnement des employés

Le Ministère s'est engagé en faveur du perfectionnement et du bien-être de ses employés. En 2008-2009, il a commencé à mettre en œuvre la politique d'apprentissage du gouvernement pour appuyer l'apprentissage continu de tous les employés et créer un environnement qui encourage et reconnaît la valeur de la formation formelle ou non formelle. La politique d'apprentissage s'appuie sur les investissements à long terme du Ministère dans le renforcement des compétences des employés par des possibilités de formation formelle, des affectations, des détachements et d'autres moyens connexes. En outre, le Ministère continue de soutenir une politique de conciliation travail-vie qui reconnaît l'importance de l'équilibre entre le travail et la vie personnelle afin de recruter et de conserver des employés qualifiés et motivés.

Nous croyons aussi à la reconnaissance des efforts des employés. Un programme officiel de reconnaissance par les pairs est à la base de notre stratégie. Aux termes du programme, les particuliers ou des équipes d'employés sont reconnus et récompensés pour leurs réalisations. Le programme *Working Together for Success* invite chaque année les membres du personnel du Ministère à proposer des collègues auxquels on pourrait rendre honneur. Les employés du Ministère qui font partie du comité de direction du programme élaborent les critères de récompense, décident du nombre et des types de prix et élisent les gagnants.

Le Ministère s'appuie sur de telles stratégies, ainsi que sur d'autres mesures, pour motiver son personnel et en rehausser le moral afin d'améliorer les services offerts à ses clients.

Site Web

Le rapport annuel du Ministère et des renseignements sur les nombreux programmes et services offerts se trouvent sur le site Web d'Agriculture, Alimentation et Initiatives rurales Manitoba, à l'adresse : www.gov.mb.ca/agriculture. Le site comprend également une version anglaise du rapport annuel pour l'exercice 2008-2009.

2008/09 Highlights

Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives' (MAFRI's) priorities for the 2008/2009 fiscal year continued to focus on farm profitability, growth of the value-added economy, rural economic development, environmental sustainability, and health and wellness. In addition, the department worked with its national partners to create the new Growing Forward agricultural policy that will facilitate funding and programming for the next five years.

Farm Profitability

- The department funded a range of programs that assisted cattle producers in the flooded Westlake and Interlake areas of Manitoba, including the province's portion ($11 million) of the Manitoba Forage Assistance, Manitoba Forage Restoration Assistance, and Manitoba Livestock Feed Assistance programs.
- Growing Opportunities teams worked with flooded producers at information meetings and in one-on-one sessions to help them access assistance programs and formulate rations, and staff from the Manitoba Crop Insurance Corporation put in a commendable effort to assess flooded hay/cropland and expedite claim payments.
- The $5 million Manitoba Hog Assistance Loan Program was created to lend cash-strapped pig producers $35 per slaughter hog and $10 per weanling.
- MAFRI worked with the federal government to oppose Country-of-Origin Labelling, and undertook new export development initiatives to counteract its effects.
- An additional $2.5 million was reimbursed to producers when the government raised its school tax rebates on farm land to 70 percent.
- Through AgriStability and AgriInvest, the new business risk management programs, an estimated $51.5 million in provincial funds were provided to producers experiencing a loss in income.
- MAFRI provided $1 million in support for the Agri-Food Research and Development Initiative which funds research and development projects that help producers increase competitiveness and diversify. An example of the kind of projects funded include a series of workshops that trained producers on GPS and GIS systems which can help them maximize their inputs.
- The amount of the guaranteed maximum under the Operating Credit Guarantee was raised from $15 million to $25 million.
- MAFRI continued to make production insurance responsive to producers' needs and market conditions with enhancements to soybeans, forage restoration and forage establishment coverage.
- Young farmers were supported with $1.6 million in benefits through the Young Farmer Rebate Program.
- Support was continued for the Tuberculosis (TB) Mustering Fee, a program that covers the cost to producers in the Riding Mountain TB Eradication Area of having cattle tested for TB by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency.
- The Community Pasture Program provided 23 pastures on 395,506 acres, which accommodated 23 percent of the livestock herd in Manitoba.
- MAFRI assisted the Farm Products Marketing Council in its mandate of supporting regulated commodity groups, and ultimately, the farm families who raise these commodities. The Council co-ordinated by-law changes for turkey, vegetable and dairy sectors, worked with the egg sector in quality assurance, administered quota transfers, and worked with the national quota system relating to chicken and turkey.

Growth of the Value-added Economy

- A new program, Manitoba Agri-Innovation Suite, was created to assist entrepreneurs in agri-product development, commercialization, marketing and certification.
- More support for value-added activities in the hemp industry was provided with a first-time hemp strategy that identifies opportunities for processing and production.
- Almost $400.0 was provided for the Organic Transition Program to assist producers/processors become certified.
- MAFRI continued to work with and assist the Organic Producers Association of Manitoba, and provided new assistance to the organic industry in creating the Manitoba Organic Alliance that will promote and grow organic production and processing sectors in Manitoba.

- The department's Food Development Centre celebrated 30 years of assisting Manitoba producers and processors develop, improve or commercialize food products.
- By demonstrating value-added processing, staff with the department's woodlot program assisted landowners in generating over $500.0 in income.
- MAFRI assisted processors in accessing U.S. and off-shore markets.

Rural Development and Economic Growth

- Funding was provided to support an expanded video-conferencing system that gives rural entrepreneurs the ability to access business-related servicing and programming across Manitoba.
- MAFRI provided $545.0 to Regional Development Corporations to assist with 67 community economic development projects, approved $478.4 in Hometown Manitoba grants to business and community groups to kick start renovation projects, and $94.5 to Manitoba's 54 agricultural societies for infrastructure needs.
- Ongoing support for the co-operative movement continued, as a way to encourage new economic growth in rural Manitoba.
- Funding of $105.0 was committed to Credit Union Central of Manitoba to develop a curriculum that will help new and existing co-ops grow into successful enterprises.
- MAFRI provided assistance to co-operative stakeholders in developing a strategy that identifies issues and opportunities for co-ops.
- To promote industry, diversity and entrepreneurship in rural Manitoba, the department provided $309.4 for a multi-partner project that established a model aqua farm.
- Funding was provided for Open Your Eyes, a DVD project that encourages unique northern and rural business opportunities using northern traditions and materials.
- MAFRI co-ordinated the inaugural Capturing Opportunities conference, the successor to Rural Forum, and provided communities and rural entrepreneurs with workshops and seminars on entrepreneurship, business development, community economic development, value chains and many other topics.
- The department continued its work with rural young people as it awarded the first three Rural Initiatives Scholarships, supported a number of projects through the Young Rural Aboriginal Entrepreneur Initiative, and provided ongoing support for the 3,000-member 4-H program – including the establishment of a 4-H club at Brokenhead First Nation.
- A $100.0 grant over five years was provided to the Royal Manitoba Winter Fair, a royally designated venue where urban and rural residents meet to learn about agriculture.
- In partnership with the City of Brandon, a total of $15 million was committed to the Brandon Keystone Centre for capital improvements, debt reduction and ongoing operations, in order that the centre remain a top attraction for conferences, high-profile agricultural events, and top sporting events such as the 2010 Memorial Cup.
- MAFRI land use staff provided information to assist communities in maintaining the farm land base and directed development initiatives to appropriate sites.

Environmental Sustainability

- The new Sustainable Agricultural Practices Program was launched, with $2 million over the next four years in direct payments to producers to encourage them to adopt best management practices and restore wetlands.
- MAFRI appointed a climate change manager, the first position of its kind, to co-ordinate research into climate-change adaption, ecological goods and services, and environmental resource economics. This was augmented by $1 million in new research funding to reduce greenhouse gas emitted by Manitoba's agricultural activities.
- MAFRI's woodlot program was enhanced to assist landowners manage, renew and rejuvenate riparian hardwood forests. This will promote greenhouse gas absorption, carbon sequestration and nutrient absorption, and help prevent erosion.
- The department's Agricultural Sustainability Initiative supported 40 environmental projects in sustainable forage management, sustainable cropping systems, integrated pest management, water quality improvement and the final year of the Alternative Land Use Services pilot project.
- The highly successful Environmental Farm Plan program continued, assisting producers in creating 6,940 environmental farm plans and assessing 8.8 million acres since 2005 for sustainable improvements.

- The department invested $50.0 in enhanced aerial surveillance to control unauthorized stubble burning.

Health and Wellness

- MAFRI committed $675.0 to develop and launch an agri-food traceability system that will have the ability to track food products from producer to consumer, and will provide additional assurances to local, national and international customers.
- A new *Food Safety Act* was introduced to strengthen the system that safeguards the health of Manitoba's food as it moves from farm to retail outlets to consumer.
- Amendments to *The Animal Care Act* were introduced that will strengthen MAFRI's ability to protect animals from abuse and also increase penalties for offenders.
- Routine inspections of animal assembly stations were implemented.
- MAFRI led the development of the surveillance component of the Canadian Animal Health Surveillance Network, developed new tools to analyze information, and became the first province to put regular data into the system – the essential first step in monitoring national trends in animal diseases, and ultimately, reducing the spread of diseases.
- Animal disease response plans were enhanced, as was the capacity to respond to serious animal health emergencies.
- Support for the Northern Healthy Foods Initiative was continued, including extension work in greenhouses and other ways of extending the growing season to assist northern Manitoba communities with growing and preserving fresh fruits and vegetables.
- The Food Development Centre continued to work with the Richardson Centre for Functional Foods and Nutraceuticals and the Canadian Centre for Agri-Food Research in Health and Medicine to explore opportunities to add value to locally produced commodities and create products for the health market.
- The department created new rules on how pepper, dog and bear spray can be sold in order to restrict sales to those that might use them for illegal purposes, thus protecting the public.
- In conjunction with the Manitoba Pork Council and Winnipeg Harvest, MAFRI co-ordinated a cull sow program that resulted in 149,581 kilograms of processed and frozen pork, valued at $424.7, being distributed to Manitoba's needy.

Growing Forward

- In conjunction with the federal government, AgriInvest and AgriStability were introduced to replace the Canadian Agricultural Income Stabilization Program, which, along with AgriInsurance, will be the business risk management components of the Growing Forward agreement.
- An agreement between the federal government, provinces and territories was reached on the framework of the Growing Forward agreement, with a funding commitment that paved the way for non-business risk management programming.

Faits saillants en 2008-2009

Les priorités d'Agriculture, Alimentation et Initiatives rurales Manitoba pour l'exercice financier 2008-2009 étaient toujours axées sur la rentabilité des exploitations agricoles, la croissance de l'économie à valeur ajoutée, le développement économique rural, la durabilité de l'environnement, et la santé et le mieux-être. En outre, le ministère a collaboré avec ses partenaires nationaux à la création de la nouvelle politique agricole *Cultivons l'avenir*, qui facilitera la prestation de programmes et le financement pendant les cinq prochaines années.

Rentabilité des exploitations agricoles

- Le ministère a subventionné une vaste gamme de programmes venant en aide aux éleveurs de bétail dans les régions inondées manitobaines de Westlake et d'Entre-les-Lacs, y compris la portion de la Province (11 millions de dollars) pour les programmes suivants : le Programme manitobain d'aide à l'affouragement, le Programme d'aide au rétablissement des cultures fourragères du Manitoba et le Programme d'aide à l'achat d'aliments du bétail du Manitoba.
- Les équipes Profitons des possibilités de croissance ont travaillé avec des producteurs touchés par les inondations au cours de réunions d'information et de séances individuelles pour les aider à accéder aux programmes d'aide et à calculer les rations, et le personnel de la Société d'assurance-récolte du Manitoba a déployé des efforts remarquables pour l'évaluation des prairies de fauche et des terres cultivées inondées, et l'accélération du paiement des réclamations.
- Le Programme manitobain de prêts d'aide aux éleveurs de porcs, de cinq millions de dollars, a pour but de prêter 35 $ par porc de boucherie et 10 $ par porcelet sevré aux producteurs de porcs qui sont à court d'argent.
- Le ministère a travaillé avec le gouvernement fédéral pour s'opposer à l'étiquetage indiquant le pays d'origine et a entrepris de nouvelles initiatives de développement des exportations pour en contrer les effets.
- Le gouvernement a augmenté le remboursement de la taxe scolaire applicable aux terres agricoles à 70 %, ce qui a permis aux producteurs de recevoir 2,5 millions de dollars supplémentaires.
- Grâce à Agri-stabilité et à Agri-investissement, les nouveaux programmes de risque commercial, on estime que des fonds provinciaux de 51,5 millions de dollars ont été versés aux producteurs ayant connu une baisse de leurs revenus.
- Le ministère a fourni un million de dollars en soutien à l'Initiative de recherche et de développement en agroalimentaire, qui finance les projets de recherche et de développement pour aider les producteurs à accroître leur compétitivité et à diversifier leur production. Le type de projets financés comprend, par exemple, une série d'ateliers formant les producteurs sur le système de positionnement global (GPS) et le système d'information géographique (SIG), ce qui peut les aider à maximiser leurs intrants.
- Le montant du maximum garanti en vertu du Programme de garantie de crédit à l'exploitation est passé de 15 à 25 millions de dollars.
- Le ministère a continué d'adapter l'assurance-production aux besoins des producteurs et aux conditions du marché en améliorant la couverture pour le soya, le rétablissement des cultures fourragères et les cultures fourragères en début d'exploitation.
- On a appuyé les jeunes agriculteurs grâce à des avantages fiscaux s'élevant à 1,6 million de dollars dans le cadre du Programme d'allégement des taux d'intérêt destinés aux jeunes agriculteurs.
- On a continué à soutenir le Programme manitobain d'indemnités pour les frais de rassemblement d'animaux en vue du dépistage de la tuberculose bovine, qui vient en aide aux producteurs situés dans la zone d'éradication du Mont-Riding en couvrant les frais pour le dépistage de la tuberculose bovine par l'Agence canadienne d'inspection des aliments.
- Le Programme de pâturages communautaires a fourni 23 pâturages s'étendant sur 395 506 acres, qui ont abrité 23 % des troupeaux de bétail au Manitoba.
- Le ministère a aidé le Conseil manitobain de commercialisation des produits agricoles à réaliser son mandat, qui consiste à soutenir des groupes de produits réglementés, et, en fin de compte, les familles agricoles qui ont cultivés ces produits. Le Conseil a coordonné les modifications des règlements portant sur les secteurs du dindon, des légumes et des produits laitiers, a collaboré avec les membres du secteur des œufs en ce qui concerne l'assurance de la qualité, a

administré les transferts de quotas et a travaillé avec les responsables du système de quota national concernant le poulet et le dindon.

Croissance de l'économie à valeur ajoutée

- Le nouveau Programme d'innovation en agroalimentaire du Manitoba a pour but d'aider les entrepreneurs dans les domaines du développement, de la commercialisation, du marketing et de la certification des produits agricoles.
- L'industrie du chanvre a bénéficié d'une aide supplémentaire pour ses activités à valeur ajoutée grâce à une première stratégie permettant de déterminer les possibilités de transformation et de production.
- On a fourni près de 400 000 $ au Programme de transition à la certification biologique pour aider les producteurs et les transformateurs à obtenir une certification.
- Le ministère a continué d'aider l'Organic Producers Association of Manitoba Co-op et de travailler en collaboration avec elle. Il a aussi fourni une nouvelle aide au secteur de la production biologique pour créer l'Alliance manitobaine du secteur biologique qui fera la promotion des secteurs de production et de transformation biologiques au Manitoba et qui en favorisera la croissance.
- Le Centre de développement de produits alimentaires du ministère a célébré 30 ans d'aide aux producteurs et aux transformateurs du Manitoba pour développer, améliorer ou commercialiser les produits alimentaires.
- En expliquant la transformation à valeur ajoutée, le personnel du Programme des boisés du Manitoba a aidé des propriétaires à générer plus de 500 000 $ en revenus.
- Le ministère a aidé les transformateurs à accéder aux marchés américains et étrangers.

Développement et croissance économiques en milieu rural

- Des fonds ont été alloués pour soutenir un réseau élargi de vidéoconférence qui donne aux entrepreneurs ruraux la capacité d'accéder à des services et à des programmes liés aux affaires partout au Manitoba.
- Le ministère a fourni 545 000 $ aux sociétés de développement régional pour les aider à réaliser 67 projets de développement économique communautaire, et a approuvé 478 400 $ en subventions Fiers chez nous à des entreprises et à des groupes communautaires pour lancer des projets de rénovation, ainsi que 94 500 $ aux 54 associations agricoles du Manitoba pour répondre à des besoins en matière d'infrastructure.
- On a continué à soutenir le mouvement coopératif afin d'encourager une nouvelle croissance économique dans les régions rurales du Manitoba.
- On a accordé 105 000 $ à la Credit Union Central of Manitoba pour l'élaboration d'un programme qui aidera les coopératives nouvelles et existantes à devenir des entreprises performantes.
- Le ministère a aidé les parties intéressées des coopératives à concevoir une stratégie qui permet de déterminer les difficultés et les possibilités pour les coopératives.
- Afin de promouvoir l'industrie, la diversité et l'entreprenariat dans les régions rurales du Manitoba, le ministère a alloué 309 400 $ à un projet comptant plusieurs partenaires, qui a conçu un modèle d'exploitation piscicole.
- Des fonds ont été alloués au projet de DVD *Open Your Eyes*, qui encourage les possibilités propres aux entreprises rurales et du Nord s'inspirant de traditions du Nord et utilisant des matériaux de cette région.
- Le ministère a coordonné la conférence inaugurale *Saisir les occasions*, qui succède au Forum rural, et a offert aux communautés et aux entrepreneurs ruraux des ateliers et des séminaires sur l'entreprenariat, l'expansion des entreprises, le développement économique communautaire, les chaînes de valeurs et beaucoup d'autres sujets.
- Le ministère a poursuivi son travail avec les jeunes des régions rurales en octroyant les trois premières bourses « Rural Initiatives », a appuyé plusieurs projets dans le cadre du Programme visant les jeunes entrepreneurs autochtones en milieu rural, et a fourni un soutien continu aux 3 000 membres du programme 4-H, y compris la fondation d'un club 4-H dans la collectivité autochtone de Brokenhead.
- On a fourni une subvention de 100 000 $ sur cinq ans à la Royal Manitoba Winter Fair, une foire ayant la désignation royale où les résidents des régions urbaines et rurales se réunissent pour en apprendre davantage sur l'agriculture.
- En partenariat avec la Ville de Brandon, on a accordé un total de 15 millions de dollars au Brandon Keystone Centre pour l'amélioration des immobilisations, la réduction de la dette et la poursuite des activités courantes, afin que le centre demeure un lieu de premier ordre pour les

conférences, les manifestations agricoles importantes et les manifestations sportives de haut calibre, comme la coupe Memorial 2010.

- Le personnel du ministère responsable de l'occupation des sols a fourni de l'information aux communautés pour les aider à entretenir les terres agricoles et a aiguillé les initiatives de développement vers les sites appropriés.

Durabilité de l'environnement

- On a lancé le nouveau Programme de pratiques d'agriculture durable du Manitoba, dans le cadre duquel les producteurs recevront des paiements directs totalisant deux millions de dollars au cours des quatre prochaines années pour les encourager à restaurer les milieux humides et à adopter les meilleures pratiques de gestion.
- Le ministère a nommé un responsable du changement climatique, le premier poste de ce genre, afin de coordonner la recherche sur l'adaptation au changement climatique, les biens et les services écologiques et l'économique des ressources environnementales. À cela s'est ajouté un financement d'un million de dollars dans de nouvelles recherches pour réduire les émissions de gaz à effet de serre provenant des activités agricoles au Manitoba.
- Le Programme de protection des boisés, offert par le ministère, a été amélioré pour aider les propriétaires de terres à gérer, à renouveler et à rajeunir les forêts caducifoliées riveraines. Ces mesures favoriseront l'absorption des gaz à effet de serre, la séquestration du carbone et l'absorption des nutriants, et aideront à prévenir l'érosion.
- L'Initiative de développement durable de l'agriculture, offerte par le ministère, a permis d'appuyer 40 projets environnementaux dans les domaines de la gestion durable des cultures fourragères, des systèmes de cultures durables, de la lutte antiparasitaire intégrée et de l'amélioration de la qualité de l'eau, ainsi que de soutenir le projet pilote du Services de diversification des modes d'occupation des sols, qui en est à sa dernière année.
- Le Programme de planification environnementale à la ferme, au succès remarquable, s'est poursuivi, aidant les producteurs à concevoir 6 940 plans environnementaux de fermes et à évaluer 8,8 millions d'acres depuis 2005 en vue d'améliorations durables.
- Le ministère a investi 50 000 $ dans l'amélioration de la surveillance aérienne afin de vérifier qu'il n'y a pas de brûlage de chaume non autorisé.

Santé et mieux-être

- Le ministère a investi 675 000 $ dans la conception et le lancement d'un système de traçabilité agroalimentaire qui aura la capacité de suivre les produits alimentaires du producteur jusqu'au consommateur, et qui fournira des assurances additionnelles aux consommateurs locaux, nationaux et internationaux.
- Une nouvelle *Loi sur la salubrité des aliments* a été présentée afin de renforcer le système qui garantit la salubrité des aliments du Manitoba pendant leur parcours de l'exploitation agricole jusqu'au consommateur, en passant par le commerce de détail.
- On a présenté des modifications à la *Loi sur le soin des animaux* qui renforceront la capacité du ministère à protéger les animaux contre les mauvais traitements, et qui alourdiront les peines pour les contrevenants.
- Des inspections régulières des postes de groupage d'animaux ont été mises en œuvre.
- La province a dirigé la conception de la composante de surveillance du Réseau canadien de surveillance zoosanitaire, a développé de nouveaux outils d'analyse de l'information, et a été la première à fournir des données régulières au réseau, ce qui constitue la première étape essentielle à la surveillance des tendances nationales des maladies des animaux et, en bout de compte, à la réduction de la propagation des maladies.
- Les plans d'intervention relatifs aux maladies des animaux et la capacité à répondre à de graves urgences dans ce domaine ont été améliorés.
- On a continué à soutenir l'Initiative d'alimentation saine dans le Nord, y compris les efforts de vulgarisation dans les serres et les autres moyens pour prolonger la période de croissance afin d'aider les communautés du nord du Manitoba à cultiver et à conserver les fruits et les légumes frais.
- Le Centre de développement de produits alimentaires a continué à travailler avec le centre Richardson de recherche sur les aliments fonctionnels et les nutraceutiques et le Centre canadien de recherches agroalimentaires en santé et médecine pour examiner les possibilités d'ajouter de la valeur aux denrées produites à l'échelle locale et de créer des aliments pour le marché des produits de santé.

- Le ministère a créé de nouvelles règles concernant la vente de vaporisateurs de poivre, de vaporisateurs contre les chiens et de vaporisateurs contre les ours afin d'en interdire la vente à ceux qui pourraient les utiliser à des fins illégales, ce qui aura pour effet de protéger le public.
- Conjointement avec le Conseil manitobain du porc et Winnipeg Harvest, le ministère a coordonné un programme relatif aux truies de réforme qui a permis la distribution de 149 581 kilogrammes de porc transformé et congelé, d'une valeur de 424 700 $, aux personnes dans le besoin à Manitoba.

Cultivons l'avenir

- Conjointement avec le gouvernement fédéral, on a lancé les programmes Agri-investissement et Agri-stabilité en remplacement du Programme canadien de stabilisation du revenu agricole, qui, avec Agri-protection, constitueront les composantes de gestion du risque commercial de l'accord *Cultivons l'avenir*.
- Le gouvernement fédéral, les provinces et les territoires ont conclu une entente sur l'accord-cadre *Cultivons l'avenir*, de laquelle découle un engagement financier ouvrant la voie aux programmes de gestion du risque non commercial.

SECTION ONE

PART A

PROGRAM AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Appropriation 1
Policy and Management

The Policy and Management Division provides for the executive management, strategic planning and control of departmental policies and programs. It co-ordinates long-term policy and program development for Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives. The division also conducts research and analysis, provides agriculture and food statistics and industry intelligence to the department staff, industry and the general public, as well as provides knowledge management leadership, specialized advisory and central support services to the department. The Policy and Management Division provides support services and funding for the administration of various boards and commissions.

This main vote also provides resources for corporate services including financial and administrative management, accounting, comptrollership, accountability, as well as for a portion of the consolidated human resource management services sector.

Appropriation 1 (a) - Minister's Salary

This expenditure provides additional compensation to an individual appointed to the Executive Council.

1 (a) Minister's Salary

Expenditures by Sub-Appropriation	Actual 2008/2009 $(000s)	Estimate 2008/2009 FTEs	Estimate 2008/2009 $(000s)	Variance Over/(Under) $(000s)	Expl. No.
Salaries and Employee Benefits	45	1.00	45	-	
Total Sub-Appropriation	**45**	**1.00**	**45**	**-**	

Appropriation 1 (b) – Executive Support

Executive Support is responsible for providing leadership, direction, and communication in the effective implementation of department-wide goals and priorities. A key responsibility of this organizational unit is to advise the Minister on strategic and program options in compliance with government policies. Executive staff also ensures that all department resources are allocated in accordance with government policies and priorities. The assurance of value for money and efficient and effective program delivery remain a major priority of Executive Support.

1 (b) Executive Support

Expenditures by Sub-Appropriation	Actual 2008/2009 $(000s)	Estimate 2008/2009 FTEs	Estimate 2008/2009 $(000s)	Variance Over/(Under) $(000s)	Expl. No.
(1) Salaries and Employee Benefits	564	9.00	577	(13)	
(2) Other Expenditures	107		66	41	
(3) Policy Studies	37		71	(34)	
Total Sub-Appropriation	**708**	**9.00**	**714**	**(6)**	

Appropriation 1 (c) – Strategic Planning Directorate

The Strategic Planning Directorate was created under the Growing Opportunities (GO) Initiative to focus the department's efforts to strategically identify paths that will strengthen the agriculture and agri-food sectors, as well as rural and northern communities. The directorate's specific objectives include: providing leadership and support in the development of the departmental strategic plan; fostering unit-level excellence in planning and consultations with stakeholders; supporting, monitoring, and reporting on implementation of strategic directions and policies for the department; co-coordinating the department's emergency management and business continuity plans; integrating the strategic directions of the agriculture and food sectors and rural and northern communities into the overall departmental strategy; and supporting the implementation of *The Public Interest Disclosure (Whistleblower Protection) Act* in the department.

The expected results, as planned during the 2008/09 estimates process, are displayed below in italics followed by bulleted actual results.

Objective 1:

To provide leadership in the development of the departmental vision, its strategic plan and consultations plan.

Greater co-ordination and collaboration of departmental policies and programs internally, and with the Food Development Centre and the Manitoba Agricultural Services Corporation.

- Annual Priorities and Strategies document enhanced to more closely tie in governmental, departmental priorities and planning timing.
- Assistance to Food Development Centre on the development of its strategic plan.
- Inclusion of Food Development Centre and Manitoba Agricultural Services Corporation in departmental strategic planning process.
- Led the development of the departmental communication strategy.

Objective 2:

To foster excellence in unit-level strategic planning and consultation activities.

More effective targeting of departmental human, fiscal, infrastructural and other resources.

- Unit-level planning system was improved to integrate human resources planning and information technology planning and to more closely align governmental and departmental planning processes.
- Sharing of preliminary and final departmental planning documents among knowledge centres, GO teams and staff.

Five specific performance measures related to departmental priorities are developed and implemented.

- A macro performance measure for each of the department's five overall priorities has been adopted and reported on in the annual report.
- Engaged the department in food industry targets and strategic planning process options.

Enhanced presentation of policy options for consideration by Executive Government.

- Consultations on economic development delivery co-ordination in Manitoba undertaken and report released to the public.

- Natural Cropping partnership in development to provide options for reducing input costs and to adapt to climate change.

Objective 3:

To provide leadership in the identification of new prospects, frontiers and opportunities for agriculture and rural and northern communities in Manitoba.

Strategies are developed providing departmental policy and program direction that facilitate the development of new opportunities in biological cropping and energy systems, farm profitability, climate change, and healthy food opportunities for consumers.

- Developed and implemented the Manitoba Organic Transition Program to support entry into the organic sector. Twenty new entrants, producers and processors, participated in the program.

- Agri-Food and Rural Development Council was established and is moving towards recommendations on sustainable agriculture, agri-energy and the health-ag link.

- Advanced discussions on perennial grain breeding program – working with non-government partner to complete the partnership.

- Led Functional Food and Nutraceutical opportunity analysis.

- Led Fruit and Vegetable opportunity analysis.

Objective 4:

To support, monitor and report on implementation of strategic directions and policies for the department.

Enhanced working relationship and policy co-ordination with Health and Healthy Living on health and wellness priority.

- Developed a director-level collaboration committee with Manitoba Health and Healthy Living to develop policy options to impact the health of Manitobans while seeking economic benefits for agriculture in Manitoba.

- Worked with Manitoba Health and Healthy Living on chronic disease reduction strategies.

Renewed effective partnerships between the department and sector and industry organizations.

- Consultations on economic development delivery co-ordination in Manitoba undertaken and report released to the public.

Objective 5:

To integrate the strategic directions of the rural sector and agriculture and food industries into the departmental strategy.

Two commodity group/sector organization strategies are facilitated and developed.

- Worked with Manitoba Forage Council on a strategic planning process.

- Studied the economic impact of the equine sector in Manitoba.

- Developed departmental options for livestock industry strategic planning.

Objective 6:

To support the development, maintenance and testing of the department's emergency management plan and Business Continuity Plans.

Completed Emergency Response Plan integrated into government-wide Emergency Response Plan.

- Department emergency plan for floods was completed.
- Portions of the Avian Influenza plan were tested.
- Contributed to the Emergency Measures Organization's (EMO's) work on a government-wide emergency response plan.
- Supported the Chief Veterinary Officer/Food Safety Knowledge Centre to conduct a survey of food supply chains to support food availability in a pandemic disease outbreak.

Completed Departmental Business Continuity Plan contributing to government-wide Business Continuity Plan.

- Business Continuity Plans for each knowledge centre/GO team were completed and/or updated.
- Contributed to EMO's work on government-wide business continuity planning.

Objective 7:

To support the implementation of *The Public Sector Disclosure (Whistleblower) Act* in the department.

- No disclosures under *The Public Sector Disclosure (Whistleblower) Act* were made in 2008-09.

1 (c) Strategic Planning Directorate

Expenditures by Sub-Appropriation	Actual 2008/2009 $(000s)	Estimate 2008/2009 FTEs	Estimate 2008/2009 $(000s)	Variance Over/(Under) $(000s)	Expl. No.
(1) Salaries and Employee Benefits	384	6.00	560	(176)	
(2) Other Expenditures	91		155	(64)	
Total Sub-Appropriation	**475**	**6.00**	**715**	**(240)**	

Appropriation 1 (d) – Policy Analysis

Policy Analysis is a knowledge centre comprised of Agri-Food Policy, Rural Policy, and Program Analysis.

The expected results, as planned during the 2008/09 estimates process, are displayed below in italics followed by bulleted actual results.

Objective:

To support the development and analysis of government policies and programs which affect the agricultural sector, the agri-food chain and the rural economy.

Policy documents for consideration by the Minister and senior officials on key policy areas.

- Prepared and co-ordinated policy related documents for federal/provincial/territorial and Canada-U.S. meetings and other meetings attended by the Minister and/or Premier, including ministers of agriculture meetings, the Tri-national Agricultural Accord, the Western Premiers' Conference, Council of the Federation, Midwestern Legislative Conference and Western Governors' Association meetings.

- Prepared advisory notes related to farm income issues in the livestock and crops industries, impacts on business risk management programs including funding impacts, trade and countervail issues and advocacy activities, federal/provincial/territorial agricultural policy negotiations, World Trade Organization negotiations, Agreement on Internal Trade, rail transportation, agri-environmental issues, water issues, Creating Opportunities Task Force Report recommendations, and the Succeeding Generations Initiative.

- Researched and prepared responses to ministerial correspondence.

Management documents for submission to central government.

- Prepared Cabinet submissions, Orders-in-Council, Treasury Board submissions related to federal/provincial negotiations/agreements, and support to the Agri-food industry though Growing Forward, Canada/US advocacy activities, Business Risk Management and emergency assistance.

Studies and internal reviews of designated program areas for consideration by senior executive members.

- Supported studies by other knowledge centres regarding ecological goods and services, climate change and bioproducts.

- Supported studies led by Strategic Planning Directorate (SPD) on nutraceutical and functional foods, and on fruits and vegetables.

Economic studies and background support documents as required (such as on farm income, farm financing, cost of production, transportation and trade subjects).

- Prepared cost of production budgets for the major commodities produced in Manitoba for use by staff and industry.

- Contributed to Manitoba's bioproducts strategy paper.

- Prepared background papers and notes on carbon offset markets, beneficial management practices and ecological goods and services.

- Conducted analysis regarding livestock and forage producers experiencing financial difficulty due to excess moisture and poor market returns, and helped develop and negotiate programs under the AgriRecovery framework in response.

Consultations with key stakeholders on policy and program issues.

- Held an information meeting with industry stakeholders on February 18, 2009 to update them on the progress made towards the Growing Forward bi-lateral agreement and provide them with an in-depth look at the federal/provincial/territorial non-business risk management programs included in Manitoba. These programs are based on concurrence by Manitoba and Canada to priorities raised during previous consultations. At the meeting, MAFRI sought stakeholder input regarding the planned program components, including through a written survey completed throughout the meeting, and responded to questions regarding Growing Forward. A meeting and survey summary was sent to all stakeholders.

- Supported consultations with key stakeholders for climate change (Manitoba Sustainable Agriculture Practices Program) and ecological goods and services policy development.

- Met with the executive of Keystone Agricultural Producers on March 24, 2009 to discuss policy issues of mutual interest.

Provincial input into national and international agriculture, food and rural policies, programs and standards (emphasis has been on Agricultural Policy Framework transition, Growing Forward negotiations and implementation, livestock income issues, business risk management, taxation, domestic and international trade, marketing systems, infrastructure and environment).

- Facilitated the development of Manitoba's policies and programs that were established under the Growing Forward Agreements.

- Participated in Western Climate Initiative Offsets Committee to develop carbon offsets policy for a regional cap-and-trade system.

- Participated in the federal/provincial/territorial and industry-government committees and working groups on business risk management operations and strategic review, on sustainability issues of biofuels, Drought Preparedness Partnership, domestic and international trade, and traceability.

- Participated in the Manitoba Canadian Agricultural Income Stabilization Program and AgriStability Appeals Committee.

- Submitted data to Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada related to Manitoba government expenditures on agriculture for use in international notifications.

- Served on Rural Team in the capacity of representing MAFRI's rural economic development priorities and building relationships with federal (Rural Secretariat and Western Diversification) and other rural development stakeholders, including participation in development of the third phase (2009-2013) of the Canadian Rural Partnership.

- Participated in federal/provincial/territorial working groups on finance, communications, administrative elements and program design and delivery for the effective implementation of non-business risk management programs under Growing Forward.

Responses to information requests from other governments and departments.

- Prepared a departmental response for use by the federal government in preparing for the June 2008 International Labour Organization Conference on the "promotion of rural employment for poverty reduction" and "skills for improved productivity, employment growth and development".

- Made a presentation on Manitoba's rural policy to delegates from the Jilin province of China on December 4, 2008.

- Participated in consultations led by other provincial departments and provided MAFRI input in the areas of transportation, rail line abandonment, climate change, sustainable development, and food security.

- Organized Policy Developers Network session on rural policy development and delivered presentations on horizontal policy development and rural demographic indicators.

Information on agricultural, food and rural policy developments provided to stakeholders and clients.

- On behalf of Rural Team Manitoba, organized and chaired a learning session at the April 28, 2008 Capturing Opportunities event that showcased four community models for rural, remote and northern development and community capacity building that had been funded through the Rural Secretariat's Models Program.

- Served on the Advisory Council of the Brandon University's Rural Development Institute (RDI) and the Government of Manitoba – RDI Agreement Steering Committee towards the identification and development of research initiatives addressing MAFRI priorities.

Formulation of an action plan and task teams to implement recommendations from consultations.

- Provided input into the development of a Growing Forward communication plan to ensure stakeholder recommendations for preferred communication products including creation of e-bulletin for program updates were implemented.

Three issues of The Young Farmers Newsletter distributed and posted on the department's Young Farmer web site each year.

- Three issues of The Young Farmers Newsletter were distributed and posted on the department's Young Farmer web site.

1 (d) Policy Analysis

Expenditures by Sub-Appropriation	Actual 2008/2009 $(000s)	Estimate 2008/2009 FTEs	Estimate 2008/2009 $(000s)	Variance Over/(Under) $(000s)	Expl. No.
(1) Salaries and Employee Benefits	1,295	20.10	1,445	(150)	
(2) Other Expenditures	345		387	(42)	
Total Sub-Appropriation	**1,640**	**20.10**	**1,832**	**(192)**	

Appropriation 1 (e) – Knowledge Management

The Knowledge Management Knowledge Centre (KMKC) includes Knowledge Management and Industry Intelligence sections mandated to strategically develop informational assets, knowledge-based resources and industry intelligence to meet the needs of internal staff, unit-level teams and external partners.

The expected results, as planned during the 2008/09 estimates process, are displayed below in italics followed by bulleted actual results.

Objective 1:

To provide leadership in knowledge management and to facilitate adoption of the science of knowledge management through training and support.

Full establishment of a functional knowledge warehouse supported by staff in populating information repositories and in using the knowledge warehouse systems to fulfill their operational responsibilities.

Information management systems will be developed to meet the requirements of specific projects and users.

Software technologies that support information sharing will be identified and implemented for pilot trial initiatives. This will result in improved workspace utilization and will support training and knowledge sharing.

- KMKC continues to work towards the full establishment of a functional knowledge warehouse supported by staff in populating information repositories and in using the knowledge warehouse systems to fulfill their operational responsibilities.
- Software technologies that support information sharing have been identified. A SharePoint site has been established to increase collaboration between horizontal teams and additional pilot project applications in development and trial. This is improving collaboration and supports training and knowledge sharing. Person-to-person video conferencing, collaboration and chat functionality is increasing collaboration while reducing travel and long distance costs.
- An interim departmental tracking system that will compile business development activities of Growing Opportunities (GO) team business development specialists for reporting on the intranet on a bi-annual basis has been developed with the GO teams. This solution will provide increased ability to monitor and report on progress. It will also be the basis upon which the requirements for a more robust solution will be formed for development in the future.
- Initiating development of the MAFRI SharePoint systems and knowledge centre as pilot projects include:
    - Calendar of events
    - House Book issues, travel requests, briefing notes
    - Knowledge system for work orders and email newsletter

Objective 2:

To provide information technology leadership, management and support to ensure effective delivery of departmental programs and activities.

Development of an effective long-term strategy in Geographic Information System (GIS) technologies specific to the agricultural sector.

Realignment in technology service delivery in keeping with the information and communications technology (ICT) restructuring project.

Advice, direction and monitoring in the delivery of system developments related to knowledge management and streamlined management information systems for groups, projects and initiatives such as Food Development Centre, Soils Survey Program, Veterinary Laboratory and other departmental operations.

Strategic image redesign implementation will include additional interactive applications on the department's internet home page.

A departmental tracking system will compile business development activities of GO team business development specialists for reporting on the intranet on a bi-annual basis.

The implementation process for the ICT restructuring project is monitored and assessed on an on-going basis and meets the operational requirements of the department.

- Information management systems have been developed to meet the requirements of specific projects and users including:
    - Updates to the Manure Application Rate Calculator database
    - Updates to the 4H database
    - Updates to the Elk database
    - Updates to the Soil Information Management System
    - Initiating development of a Veterinary Retention Scholarship System
    - Initiating development of the MAFRI eForms system for internet
    - Re-write of the Boards and Commissions Licensing Program
    - Initiating development of a Premises ID system for traceability
    - Food Safety and Pandemic planning
    - Re-development of the Vet Lab program
- Implementation of the Food Development Centre Client Information System.
- Development of an effective long-term strategy in GIS technologies specific to the agricultural sector.
    - KMKC staff and other users of GIS technologies are participating in an inter-departmental planning process for GIS.
    - A user needs assessment to assist in the development of a GIS-based decision support tool in the event of an animal emergency.
    - Upgrades to the GIS infrastructure and software were made.
- Re-alignment in technology service delivery in keeping with the ICT restructuring project is an ongoing process.
- The implementation process for the ICT restructuring project continues to be monitored and assessed on an on-going basis. MAFRI's internal processes have been reviewed and updated to better align and integrate with those of Science, Technology, Energy & Mines to ensure effective management of information technology projects.
- As required KMKC provided advice, direction and monitoring in the delivery of system developments related to knowledge management and streamlined management information systems for groups, projects and initiatives such as Food Development Centre, Soils Survey Program, Veterinary Laboratory and other departmental operations.

Objective 3:

To provide statistical information in agricultural and agri-food economics, production, marketing, outlooks and socio-economics to the agricultural industry, agri-food sector, farmers and staff, in electronic and print format.

Publication of the Manitoba Agriculture Yearbook and statistical releases that report on the economic status of the agriculture and agri-food sector, including farm income forecasts, production estimates and broad-based indicators of economic performance.

Development of existing and new databases for use in market analysis and economic impact assessment for the agriculture and agri-food industry, in addition to providing outlook information on grains, oilseeds and livestock markets.

Preparation of provincial agricultural estimates in conjunction with Statistics Canada and Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada.
Participation in the federal-provincial consortium on trade statistics access and utilization.

Representation of provincial statistical and data collection and utilization interests at

federal/provincial/territorial consultations.

- Participation in the federal-provincial consortium on trade statistics access and utilization continues, and is nearing implementation enabling access to additional data in support of agriculture, value-added processing, valued-added export opportunities.
- Publication of 17 different publications including the Manitoba Agriculture Yearbook, Agriculture Statistics Factsheet, Farm Cash Receipts, Farm Income Forecast, Statistics on Revenue and Expenses, Manitoba Agri-Food Exports to the World and Manitoba Agri-Food Exports to the United States, and other broad-based indicators of economic performance.
- Development of existing and new databases for use in market analysis and economic impact assessment for the agriculture and agri-food industry, in addition to providing outlook information on grains, oilseeds and livestock markets.
- Preparation of provincial agricultural estimates in conjunction with Statistics Canada and Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada ensures that accurate information is used to measure and represent the industry.
- Represent Manitoba's statistical and data collection and utilization interests at federal/provincial/territorial consultations as part of collaborating with a variety of different organizations and during approximately 35 meetings.

Additional Results:

- Staff communication has increased with an updated staff bulletin.
- Increased capacity for web conferencing is delivering additional programming to client groups, facilitating staff communication and training. This will result in enhanced services to citizens and a reduction in travel costs for staff.
- Work with all areas of MAFRI to begin mid and long term knowledge management planning and road mapping has begun and will be further developed and defined.
- Farmland tax rebate information has been brought into the MAFRI website to make the information more accessible and allow for more streamlined revisions. Website services provided consistent and timely information to MAFRI clients: hay listing pages, programs and services, calendar of events and Manitoba weekly crop and market reports. The flood and excess moisture information site provided links to the most current government programs and information and to topical information to help rural Manitobans deal with specific challenges.

1 (e) Knowledge Management

Expenditures by Sub-Appropriation	Actual 2008/2009 $(000s)	Estimate 2008/2009 FTEs	Estimate 2008/2009 $(000s)	Variance Over/(Under) $(000s)	Expl. No.
(1) Salaries and Employee Benefits	1,341	20.00	1,642	(301)	1
(2) Other Expenditures	263		268	(5)	
Total Sub-Appropriation	**1,604**	**20.00**	**1,910**	**(306)**	

1. *The under-expenditure is mainly due to a higher than anticipated vacancy rate.*

Appropriation 1 (f) – Boards, Commissions and Legislation

The Boards, Commissions and Legislation Knowledge Centre include the following council, agency, boards and commissions:

- Agricultural Producers' Organization Certification Agency
- Manitoba Farm Lands Ownership Board
- Manitoba Farm Machinery Board
- Manitoba Farm Mediation Board
- Manitoba Farm Practices Protection Board
- Manitoba Farm Products Marketing Council
- Manitoba Horse Racing Commission
- Manitoba Milk Prices Review Commission

The Boards, Commissions and Legislation Knowledge Centre is responsible for regulating the production and marketing of certain agricultural commodities, providing mediation services, reviewing nuisance complaints arising from agricultural operations, considering applications to own farmland by non-residents, setting producer prices, providing a mechanism to fund research and promotion activities and regulating horse racing within the province.

The expected results, as planned during the 2008/09 estimates process, are displayed below in italics followed by bulleted actual results.

Objective 1:

To conduct the program delivery functions and to provide staff support to the Farm Products Marketing Council, the Farm Machinery Board, the Milk Prices Review Commission, the Agricultural Producers' Organization Certification Agency, the Farm Practices Protection Board, the Manitoba Farm Mediation Board and the Manitoba Farm Lands Ownership Board.

Supervision of the following boards and commissions:

- Manitoba Farm Products Marketing Council supervised:
  - Dairy Farmers of Manitoba
  - Keystone Potato Producers Association
  - Manitoba Beekeepers' Association
  - Manitoba Cattle Enhancement Council
  - Manitoba Chicken Producers
  - Manitoba Egg Producers
  - Manitoba Pork Council
  - Manitoba Turkey Producers
  - Peak of the Market

Boards and commissions operate within their respective legislative authorities.

Manitoba Farm Products Marketing Council

- The Manitoba Farm Products Marketing Council convened ten meetings at which two appeals were heard, and seven delegations made presentations. The Manitoba Council's activities were primarily focused on: standards for board meeting minutes and meeting procedures; by-law changes for Manitoba Turkey Producers, Peak of the Market and Dairy Farmers of Manitoba; quality assurance and risk management programs in the egg sector; revised marketing plans for Peak of the Market and Keystone Potato Producers Association; administration of quota transfer systems; inspection and charges to ensure compliance in the potato and pork sectors; the impact of Bill 37 on council members; national quota allocation systems for chicken and turkey sectors; and numerous amendments to various orders and regulations.

- The Manitoba Broiler Hatching Egg Commission was successfully combined with the Manitoba Chicken Producers. Hatching egg producers are formally represented on the Manitoba Chicken Producers Board of Directors.

Decisions rendered to uphold or dismiss appeals by individuals affected by a decision, regulation or order of a board or commission.

- Manitoba Farm Products Marketing Council made two appeal determinations.

- Manitoba Farm Machinery Board resolved five registered complaints.

Advice to the Minister on issues affecting the various provincial marketing plans, regulations, orders and federal-provincial agreements.

- Ministerial advisement on key issues related to national chicken and turkey allocation, chicken processing plan requirements and new farm mediation procedures.

Examination of applications for leave to repossess farm machinery, decisions rendered on the applications, resolution of 85 percent of the applications without repossession, and mediation of differences between producers and farm equipment dealers/manufacturers.

Manitoba Farm Machinery Board
The Manitoba Farm Machinery Board administers *The Manitoba Farm Machinery and Equipment Act*, involving the board with all segments of the farm implement industry – producers, dealers, distributors and manufacturers.

The Farm Machinery and Equipment Act requires lenders financing farm machinery by means of a lien note security document to apply to the board for leave to repossess when an account goes into arrears and before repossession can occur. Manitoba is the only jurisdiction in Canada requiring a quasi-judicial body to pass judgment before farm machinery repossession can take place.

- Five meetings and two conference calls were convened.

- Ninety-one applications for leave to repossess were received and processed with 90 percent resolved without repossession.

Establishment of fluid milk prices at the producer level and maximum wholesale and retail price of one litre containers semi-annually, based on costs of production, processing and retailing.

Manitoba Milk Prices Review Commission
The Manitoba Milk Prices Review Commission was established under *The Milk Prices Review Act*, 1980. Its mandate is to set a producer price for fluid milk and to monitor and control wholesale and retail milk prices as required. In January 2009, new commission members were appointed from amongst departmental staff who work with the milk sector, while the Western Milk Pool Indexation formula was used for the first time in establishing the February 2009 producer price for fluid milk.

- The commission convened five meetings which included consultations with Dairy Farmers of Manitoba and Manitoba Milk Processors to arrive at the following milk price changes:
  - Effective November 1, 2008, the commission increased the fluid milk price for producers by $4.66/hectoliter (hl), raising the price from $81.81/hl to $86.47/hl. The maximum wholesale and retail prices for fluid milk sold in one litre containers increased by five cents.
  - Effective February 24, 2009, the commission increased the fluid price for producers by $2.70/hl and agreed to convert from 3.7034 kg/hl butterfat content to 3.6 kg/hl butterfat content. This resulted in a fluid milk price paid to producers increasing from $85.92/hl to $88.62/hl.

Referenda conducted as requested amongst producers to determine if commodity organizations should be designated under The Agricultural Producers' Organization Funding Act, and to certify one general policy organization.

- The following commodity associations became designated during the period April 1, 2008 and February 20, 2009:
  - Manitoba Flax Growers Association

- Manitoba Oat Growers Association
- Winter Cereals Manitoba Inc.

Investigations of complaint applications to determine whether related disturbance results from a normal farm practice, endeavouring to resolve disputes between aggrieved parties and the owners/operators of agricultural operations.

Manitoba Farm Practices Protection Board
The Farm Practices Protection Act provides a process for reviewing and mediating nuisance disputes arising from practices of legally established agricultural operations. The act is intended to provide protection from nuisance suits to agricultural operations that are conducting their activities in a normal manner, and to bring about changes to practices that are unacceptably disturbing to neighbours.

- For the fiscal year ending March 2009, the board convened three meetings dealing with annual compliance to the 24 existing board orders as well as issues related to access in order to complete an investigation.

- One roaming cows causing damage complaint was registered but was withdrawn when the complaint was resolved locally.

Review of applications from both lenders and farmers for assistance in resolving the farmer's financial difficulty; achievement of a settlement in 70-80 percent of cases.

Manitoba Farm Mediation Board
The objectives of *The Family Farm Protection Act* are to protect farmers against unwarranted loss of their farming operations during periods of difficult economic circumstances, and to preserve the farmland base, management skills, human resources and existing lifestyle of farm communities in Manitoba.

- Seven board meetings were convened to consider policy issues and new guarantees.

- Applications - There are two types of applications to the board: voluntary requests for mediation and applications by creditors for leave to foreclose on farmland. The total number of applications received decreased slightly over the same period for the previous year from 103 to 88. In 2008/09, the board achieved a settlement in 75 percent of the cases in which its mediation services were used.

- Guarantees – The board administers the Special Farm Assistance Fund. The fund was established to help producers obtain an arrangement involving continued credit or a leaseback of property conveyed to creditors. In order to qualify for a guarantee, the operation must demonstrate viability and the producer, lender, and board must agree to a farm financial plan. There were no new guarantees in 2008/09. There were 19 farmers who had guarantees during the year, with a total potential liability of $248.7. The actual amount paid was $36.6 or 14.7 percent of the liability.

  When a payment is made on a guarantee, a caveat is placed against the farmer's property. If the farmland is sold by the farmer within five years of a board payment and there is equity available, the farmer is required to repay to the board the lesser of the amount paid under the guarantee and the value of the equity in the land.

Consideration of applications for exemption under The Farm Lands Ownership Act within specific guidelines, and provision of responses within 45 days in 90 percent of cases.

Manitoba Farm Lands Ownership Board
The Farm Lands Ownership Board's main activity is to consider applications for exemption and to provide information about and direction on inquiries regarding *The Farm Lands Ownership Act*. In general, with some exceptions, any non-Canadian resident or publicly traded corporation must obtain a board exemption to be allowed to take an interest in more than 40 acres of Manitoba farmland. The board charges an application fee of $245.33 (including GST).

- Six meetings were convened at which the board considered various policy issues and applications for exemption from the act. The board received 53 applications in 2008/09 of which 50 were approved, one was withdrawn and two were still pending as of the end of the fiscal year. The board considers policy issues and applications for exemption at these meetings. The board also considers applications for exemption between board meetings to provide timely responses. The board responded in 100 percent of cases within 45 days.

1 (f) Boards, Commissions and Legislation

Expenditures by Sub-Appropriation	Actual 2008/2009 $(000s)	Estimate 2008/2009 FTEs	Estimate 2008/2009 $(000s)	Variance Over/(Under) $(000s)	Expl. No.
(1) Salaries and Employee Benefits	737	6.90	476	261	1
(2) Other Expenditures	227		607	(380)	1
(3) Grant Assistance - Special Farm Assistance	36		90	(54)	
Total Sub-Appropriation	**1,000**	**6.90**	**1,173**	**(173)**	

1. *The increase in salaries and employee benefits and decrease in other expenditures is primarily due to a change in the accounting treatment of per diems paid to board members made subsequent to the finalization of the 2008/09 estimates.*

Appropriation 1 (g) – Financial and Administrative Services

Financial and Administrative Services provides financial, accounting, management and administrative support for Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives (MAFRI) in accomplishing its goals and objectives. As well, the unit undertakes corporate review, comptrollership and agency accountability to provide assurances that financial management practices, systems, delegated authorities and processes are functioning to support accountability and in compliance with policies, procedures, acts and legislation.

Financial and Administrative Services also provides leadership in developing and administering financial and administrative support systems. The department has developed a comptrollership framework to manage and support decentralization of financial authority and operational responsibility. This framework will further ensure the efficient utilization and administration of the province's fiscal and human resources within MAFRI.

The Financial and Administrative Services unit has two main branches: Financial and Accounting Services, and Corporate Review, Administration and Agency Accountability. The Financial and Accounting Services branch: manages the department's estimates of expenditure, capital, *The Loan Act* and revenue processes; manages departmental finances including co-ordinating monthly cash flow preparation and variance analysis; provides financial advice and management support; develops and implements the comptrollership framework within the department; and ensures that all expenditures are processed and reported in accordance with government policies and generally accepted accounting principles.

The Corporate Review, Administration and Agency Accountability branch provides support to the department's corporate management. Responsibilities include: assistance in the planning of internal audit and consulting services; review of comptrollership effectiveness; agency accountability in relation to reporting and funding, as well as grant accountability; workplace safety and health; administration operations; accommodation; sustainability; contract management; *The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*; performance indicator reporting; annual report and supplementary information for legislative review; fleet vehicles; physical asset inventories; directional planning co-ordination within the unit and corporately; parking; security and risk management; insurance; and co-ordination of departmental staff training.

The expected results, as planned during the 2008/09 estimates process, are displayed below in italics followed by bulleted actual results.

Objective 1:

To plan, advise, administer, report and ensure effective implementation and adherence to the varied central and departmental policies, goals, programs, activities and mandates.

Knowledge centres and Growing Opportunities (GO) teams have the required government vehicles to meet their needs.

- Knowledge centres and GO teams had 63 permanent government fleet vehicles and 11 seasonal vehicles assigned to staff in 2008/09 in order to meet their business needs.

- Seven fleet vehicles were replaced in 2008/09.

Effective management and adherence to the provisions of The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act which includes: processing approximately 25 applications per annum within the prescribed time frames; conducting education and awareness sessions for department staff and reporting activities centrally on a quarterly basis.

- Staff received and responded to 17 *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* (FIPPA) applications in 2008/09.

- Staff prepared quarterly reports on a timely basis for the Information and Privacy Policy Secretariat.

Monitoring and records management co-ordination in the department by ensuring staff are trained and knowledgeable, and have the appropriate records schedules in place for the timely movement of records to storage and destruction centres.

- Staff approved and monitored the movement of approximately 574 records boxes to storage and destruction centres.

Effective management of accommodation activities in the department on an ongoing basis to ensure knowledge centres and GO teams have adequate and useable space, and cost savings are achieved wherever possible.

- Eleven GO office leases were renewed in 2008/09 in conjunction with Manitoba Infrastructure and Transportation (MIT).

- Staff visited 42 GO offices to obtain an accurate representation of Accommodation Cost Recovery System (ACRS) office space usage by various knowledge centres/GO teams.

- Staff worked with MIT to update floor plans to ensure ACRS space costs are allocated to the appropriate MAFRI knowledge centre/GO team and to ensure that the inventory of space is kept up-to-date.

Monitoring and co-ordination of parking to ensure parking guidelines are adhered to and payments are made and processed in a timely manner.

- Staff monitored and co-ordinated 250 parking spots for department staff.

Management and maintenance of an inventory of departmental assets.

- Staff maintained an inventory of departmental assets and updated property insurance values worth over $12 million.

- Staff provided consultative services to branches on asset management, including advising on the difference between the capital and non-capital treatment of assets.

Monitoring and assurance that sustainable development procurement practices are consistent with the overall departmental Sustainable Development Plan.

Participation on the Manitoba Green Building Policy Interdepartmental Working Group.

- Staff participates on the Green Building Policy Interdepartmental Working Group as the department's representative. The working group has not met since March 2008 due to a change in leadership.

Effective management and co-ordination of the student hiring request process, ensuring requests are approved and communicated to department management.

- Staff co-ordinated the summer and fall student hiring process, which included a focus on diversity in the workplace.

- Sixty-three Student Temporary Employment Program (STEP) students were employed by the department during the summer of 2008.

- Ten part-time STEP students were employed by the department during the fall and winter of 2008/09.

Administration and corporate management of contracts, risks, assets and workplace safety and health.

- Staff provided support and assistance to other staff in the department on the development of approximately 60 contracts, ensuring that proper risk management and guidelines outlined in the General Manual of Administration (GMA) were followed.

- Staff participated in the review of employer's risks associated with employee travel to other countries.

Additional Results:

- Staff co-ordinated the preparation and printing of the Supplementary Information for Legislative Review (SILR), Estimates Debate Book, Ministerial House Book and the Annual Report. Documents were printed and tabled in the Legislature within the appropriate timeframes and according to Manitoba Finance's instructions. A new format was introduced for the 2007/08 Annual Report and the 2008/09 SILR to ensure operational accountability by relating planned activities and expected results to actual accomplishments as well as provide direct linkage to directional plans. Training on these format improvements was done through webinars.

- Staff participated on the Disability Access Committee (DAC) in the role of co-ordinator. The DAC will develop an accessibility plan that examines department practices and identifies anticipated requests for service by persons with disabilities. The accessibility plan will outline steps and guidelines that will help MAFRI implement procedures consistent with the spirit and intent of the policy.

- Staff arranged and attended Aboriginal Procurement Initiative (API) training. Staff will work with administrative officers to ensure that: API criteria is included in requests for proposals and the Aboriginal suppliers are registered in the Aboriginal Procurement Directory.

- The annual report on the department's French Language Services was prepared and staff continued to support the French Language Services Plan by co-ordinating and monitoring departmental publications for translation, including publications for Manitoba Agricultural Services Corporation (MASC) to ensure that agricultural services are offered to producers in French language designated areas throughout Manitoba.

- Staff supported Business Continuity Planning (BCP) and attended training on the components of BCP.

Objective 2:

To provide financial and administrative services to operational units and support management accountability within the department, associated corporation and special operating agency.

Thorough analysis of programs and funding requirements that support departmental resource requests to meet its mandates and government priorities.

- Staff reviewed approximately 90 department, corporation and agency submissions to provide executive management with professional, economic, political and analytical input and recommendations with the objective of ensuring program goals are met and resources are used efficiently and effectively.

- Staff provided support, analysis and advice when consulted by the department and other entities on government and departmental policy.

Accurate departmental annual preliminary estimates, monthly and quarterly cash flow reports and effective expenditure management.

- Staff ensured that the preliminary estimates, cash flow and expenditure management processes were co-ordinated, standards were set and assistance was provided to department staff and executive management in the prioritization of program initiatives, enhancements and reductions.

- Staff completed accurate departmental annual, monthly and quarterly cash flow and variance analysis as well as ad hoc financial reports within reasonable timeframes in spite of a shortfall in staff resources.

Prompt and accurate processing of accounts payable and revenue transactions.

- Staff processed a total of 2,173 accounts payable and 11 revenue-related SAP documents during the 2008/09 fiscal year.

- Staff prepared, analyzed and/or processed approximately 200 year-end entries to ensure that all financial activities were properly recorded for the 2008/09.

Compliance with department and government policies, accuracy and completeness of financial activity and adherence to the departmental comptrollership plan.

- Staff ensured compliance with *The Public Sector Compensation Disclosure Act*.

- Staff finalized the department's comptrollership plan and made it available to all staff through MAFRI's intranet site.

- Staff completed over 30 year-end reports required by the Department of Finance on a timely basis to ensure the completeness and accuracy of MAFRI's financial information contained in the government's Public Accounts.

Annual estimates, monthly cash flows, capital supply estimates, and the annual report are compiled within established time frames.

- Staff completed accurate departmental annual, monthly and quarterly cash flow and variance analysis as well as ad hoc financial reports as requested by the Department of Finance.

Accurate information on the availability of resources is provided on a timely basis to facilitate decision-making for the achievement of departmental objectives.

- Staff provided reports on funding availability and financial strategies on a regular basis.

- Staff prepared cash flows on a monthly basis, including forecasts of resource utilization to the end of the fiscal year.

- Staff prepared effective and accurate staff utilization and out-of-province travel reports for executive review.

Research and analysis of information required by the department, Cabinet and Treasury Board is provided on a timely basis.

- Staff provided corporate support through the analysis of Treasury Board submissions with respect to programming and financial implications prior to the Deputy Minister's review.

Effective management of the departmental financial development process related to Canada-Manitoba Agreements.

- Although not directly responsible for Canada-Manitoba Agreements, staff contributed to the successful approval of the bilateral Agreement to Implement Growing Forward – a National Framework Agreement on Agriculture Policy.

- Staff participated in the development of administrative and financial procedures for AgriRecovery programs.

Additional Results:

- Staff participated in interdepartmental meetings of the Environmental Liabilities - Tracked Sites Committee and the Comptrollership Change Management Initiative Committee.

- Staff provided continuing support for the SAP software within the department through technical advice

and review of policies and procedures related to the business processes necessitated by SAP.

1 (g) Financial and Administrative Services

Expenditures by Sub-Appropriation	Actual 2008/2009 $(000s)	Estimate 2008/2009 FTEs	Estimate 2008/2009 $(000s)	Variance Over/(Under) $(000s)	Expl. No.
(1) Salaries and Employee Benefits	778	15.00	1,072	(294)	1
(2) Other Expenditures	232		353	(121)	
Total Sub-Appropriation	**1,010**	**15.00**	**1,425**	**(415)**	

1. The under-expenditure is mainly due to a higher than anticipated vacancy rate.

Appropriation 1 (h) – Human Resource Management Services

Human Resource Management Services is responsible for the provision of a full range of strategic human resources (HR) services, including advice, consultation, development, implementation, administration, and monitoring of departmental human resources programs and services for Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives (MAFRI), Manitoba Conservation, Manitoba Intergovernmental Affairs and Manitoba Water Stewardship. In addition, the branch provides human resource advice and assistance to the management of the Food Development Centre (FDC) and Pineland Nursery.

Elements of these services and programs include:

- Recruitment and selection
- Civil service renewal
- Job classification
- Wage and salary administration
- Employment equity and diversity
- Staff training and development
- Performance review/evaluation
- Labour relations
- Human resources planning
- Personnel records
- Benefits administration

Each department maintains on-site Human Resource Management Services. However, the Pay and Benefits sections for all four departments are co-located.

The expected results, as planned during the 2008/09 estimates process, are displayed below in italics followed by bulleted actual results.

Objective 1:

To provide for the development, implementation and administration of the departmental human resource program.

Skill development in orienting new employees and managing performance.

- All new employees attended the Civil Service Commission's New Employee Orientation session at the Legislative building.

Administration, implementation and evaluation of the department's staffing and wage and salary systems under delegated authority.

- One hundred and nineteen appointments were made during the year which includes 42 competitive processes and other types of appointments. Thirty classifications were completed with two outstanding at year end. The classification function has, as of February 2, 2009, been transferred to a centralized unit with Treasury Board Secretariat. From that date forward, all classification actions will now be handled by that unit only.

Continued emphasis on employment equity in staffing and development.

- The department developed its five year Diversity/Employment Equity Plan and is now working on meeting the objectives set out in the plan.

Continued assistance and advice to management on labour relations issues.

- Nine Labour Relations cases were resolved; 13 cases are ongoing and one grievance is outstanding.

Assistance to management in planning effective human resource strategies that enhance organizational effectiveness.

- At the request of the Deputy Minister, the HR sector along with the senior management committee initiated development of a MAFRI HR Business Plan indentifying key HR objectives for completion over the next two years.

Provision of comprehensive payroll services and benefits administration.

- All pay and benefits services were administered in a comprehensive manner. All pay deadlines were met and staff was provided with expert advice and guidance with respect to their benefits and pay matters.

1 (h) Human Resource Management Services

Expenditures by Sub-Appropriation	Actual 2008/2009 $(000s)	Estimate 2008/2009 FTEs	Estimate 2008/2009 $(000s)	Variance Over/(Under) $(000s)	Expl. No.
(1) Salaries and Employee Benefits	387	5.00	382	5	
(2) Other Expenditures	44		57	(13)	
Total Sub-Appropriation	**431**	**5.00**	**439**	**(8)**	

Appropriation 2
Risk Management, Credit and Income Support Programs

Appropriation 2 (a) – Manitoba Agricultural Services Corporation (MASC)

The Manitoba Agricultural Services Corporation (MASC) provides risk management solutions for farmers, financing options for agricultural and rural businesses, and other programs and services that support the development and sustainability of rural Manitoba. MASC's responsibilities and governance are outlined in *The Manitoba Agricultural Services Corporation Act*.

MASC is responsible for developing and delivering AgriInsurance (formerly Production Insurance) in Manitoba. AgriInsurance is provided on 60 different crops, covering over 85 percent of Manitoba's cultivated land. Costs are shared between insured producers and the governments of Canada and Manitoba. MASC offers a separate Hail Insurance policy to producers enrolled in AgriInsurance. Producer premiums cover all of the related hail costs, including administration. In addition, Wildlife Damage Compensation is provided to producers who suffer financial losses due to damage caused by waterfowl, big game and natural predators. The cost of Wildlife Damage Compensation is shared between the governments of Canada and Manitoba.

MASC provides loans and loan guarantees to agricultural producers and rural businesses. Special emphasis is placed on young farmers through the Bridging Generations Initiative, and on-farm diversification and value-added production which are vital to the future of rural communities. In addition, MASC facilitates loans to small businesses in rural Manitoba by providing loan guarantees through the Rural Entrepreneur Assistance (REA) program. Funding for all of MASC's lending programs is provided by the Manitoba government.

MASC administers a number of other support programs for Manitoba producers. More information on these programs and on MASC's insurance and lending activities and results can be found in MASC's 2008/09 Annual Report.

The expected results, as planned during the 2008/09 estimates process, are displayed below in italics followed by bulleted actual results.

Objective:

Provide risk management solutions for farmers, financing options for agriculture and rural businesses, and other programs and services that support the development and sustainability of rural Manitoba.

Credit Programming
Administer a portfolio of $600 million in direct loans and loans facilitated by MASC guarantees, covering 5,000 Manitoba farmers.

- MASC's portfolio of direct loans and loans facilitated by guarantees was $671.9 million, covering 4,642 farmers.

Provide $60 million in new loans under MASC's regular loan programming, as well the balance of the $60 million commitment in loan support to hog producers at attractive rates that will assist producers facing significant cash flow challenges.

- MASC approved $100.1 million in new direct loans including $40.3 million in emergency hog loans.

Facilitate $113 million in loans to agricultural enterprises through the private sector by providing $28.3 million in loan guarantees.

- MASC facilitated $82.3 million in private sector loans by providing $20.6 million in loan guarantees.

Provide interest benefits of $1.8 million to young farmers.

- MASC provided $1.9 million of benefits to young farmers through the Young Farmer Rebate and Management Training Credit components of the Bridging Generations Initiative.

Facilitate $5 million in loans for rural economic development through $4 million in loan guarantees.

- Through the REA program, MASC facilitated $4.6 million in private sector loans by providing $3.7 million in loan guarantees.

Income Risk Management Programming

Provide $1.7 billion of AgriInsurance liability, covering 9.2 million acres and 10,000 farming operations.

- AgriInsurance liability totaled $1.8 billion covering 9.2 million acres for 9,737 farming operations.

Provide $430 million of hail insurance liability, covering 3.2 million acres and 3,700 farming operations.

- Hail insurance liability totaled $640.5 million on 4.6 million acres and 4,757 farming operations.

Pay $1.8 million in wildlife damage compensation.

- Wildlife Damage Compensation paid out $2.5 million.

Provide AgriInsurance premium rebates of $25.0 under the Young Farmer Crop Plan Credit program.

- Young farmers qualified for total premium credits of $20.4.

2 (a) Manitoba Agricultural Services Corporation

Expenditures by Sub-Appropriation	Actual 2008/2009 $(000s)	Estimate 2008/2009 FTEs	Estimate 2008/2009 $(000s)	Variance Over/(Under) $(000s)	Expl. No.
Grants/Transfer Payments:					
(1) Administration	9,652	150.00	10,598	(946)	
(2) Insurance Premiums	47,685		46,558	1,127	
(3) Wildlife Damage Compensation	1,192		889	303	
(4) Net Interest Costs, Loan Provisions and Program Incentives	4,938		1,358	3,580	1
Total Sub-Appropriation	**63,467**	**150.00**	**59,403**	**4,064**	

1. *Actual 2008/09 expenditures were higher than budget mainly due to the loan loss provision for the emergency Hog Assistance Loan Program, which was partially offset by reductions in the loss provision for the Producer Recovery Loan program, decreased costs for interest concessions on hog loans due to lower borrowing costs, and higher net interest income on loans due to lower than expected borrowing costs.*

Appropriation 2 (b) – Agricultural Income Stabilization

Under the Growing Forward framework agreement, the Business Risk Management suite of programs includes AgriStability, AgriInvest, AgriInsurance and AgriRecovery. AgriInsurance, which provides insurance against production losses for specified perils, is administered by the Manitoba Agricultural Services Corporation (MASC), under appropriation 2A.

AgriStability helps producers recover from large income declines through coverage based on individual historical operating margins. Producers participate in the program by paying a fee and submitting their financial results for the current and past years. The program provides support to help offset a portion of a margin decline of more than 15 percent of the historical average.

AgriInvest helps producers save for investments to improve future income or to help recover from minor income declines. Producers participate by setting up an account and making a deposit of up to 1.5 percent of their net sales in the year. The deposit is then matched by governments.

AgriRecovery is a framework that provides a process to enable governments to respond quickly when a natural disaster that has significant collective impact strikes and fills gaps not covered by existing programs.

These programs are cost-shared by the federal and provincial governments on a 60/40 basis respectively. AgriStability and AgriInvest are administered by the federal government with offices primarily located in Winnipeg. AgriRecovery programs can be administered by either government depending on the ability to respond effectively and efficiently.

The expected results, as planned during the 2008/09 estimates process, are displayed below in italics followed by bulleted actual results.

Objective:

To provide farmers with comprehensive, predictable, individually targeted income stability.

Producers will realize increased stability in their incomes with government assistance when their margin drops.

AgriStability

In 2008/2009 producers in AgriStability provided financial information for the 2007 program year, and signed up for coverage for the 2008 tax year. Payments were made to producers who incurred a drop in margins in 2007, and interim payments for 2008 were made available.

For the 2007 program year (as of June 7, 2009):

- A total of 11,977 Manitoba producers participated in the program and paid the coverage fee.
- A total of 98.0 percent of applications involving financial information were processed.
- A total of 2,168 producers had received a final payment; and the total of the payments were $62.0 million, of which Manitoba's share is $24.8 million.
- In addition, Manitoba's share of administration costs amounted to $5.1 million.

For the 2008 program year (as of June 7, 2009):

- A total of 722 advance payments were made for a total of $41.5 million, which includes interim payments and targeted advances for livestock producers.
- Final payments will be provided to producers during 2009/2010.

The 2008/2009 appropriation represents expected payments for the 2008 program year as well as adjustments for prior years. As participant information required to calculate the 2008 payments is not available until the following year, program payments are estimated at year end. Declining livestock sector

margins, due to a combination of lower prices and higher input costs, are expected to drive up program payments. Payments to the crop sector are expected to remain relatively low as crop producers generally experienced good margins due to strong commodity prices. Overall, however, expenditures are expected to be higher than in 2007/2008 as average margins declined from the historically high level that year.

AgriInvest

The 2008/2009 appropriation represents expected payments for the 2008 program year. Payments will be determined once participants file their tax forms and make their deposit levels known. As deposits are not known at year end, the amount recorded is based on estimated farm cash receipts. Payments are expected to increase due to the higher crop prices, while being partially offset by lower expected payouts to the livestock sectors due to lower livestock prices.

AgriRecovery

In response to widespread damage to forage in the Westlake and Interlake areas of Manitoba in the summer of 2008 due to excess rainfall and overland flooding, as well as low forage yields in southwest Manitoba due to drought, Manitoba and Canada implemented three programs designed to assist forage and livestock producers, namely:

- Manitoba Forage Assistance Program – Payments to offset the cost of transporting feed to livestock or livestock to feed sources, over distances of at least 40 km. This program was available to all Manitoba producers, though assistance for transporting concentrated feed was limited to producers in the Westlake and Interlake areas. As of June 11, 2009, 796 producers had applied for a total of $2.1 million.
- Manitoba Livestock Feed Assistance Program – Direct payments of up to $70 per head for beef cattle (equivalent amounts for other ruminant livestock and horses fed for commercial use), for producers in the Westlake and Interlake areas to help purchase replacement feed. As of June 11, 2009, 1,275 producers had applied for a total of $10.0 million.
- Manitoba Forage Restoration Assistance Program – Direct payments of up to $40 per acre for tame forage stands in the Westlake and Interlake areas that were destroyed by flooding and were not eligible for coverage under AgriInsurance. Applications will be received and processed in 2009/2010.

All three of the above AgriRecovery programs were administered by MASC.

2 (b) Agricultural Income Stabilization

Expenditures by Sub-Appropriation	Actual 2008/2009 $(000s)	Estimate 2008/2009 FTEs	Estimate 2008/2009 $(000s)	Variance Over/(Under) $(000s)	Expl. No.
Grants/Transfer Payments:					
(1) Agri-Invest	18,366	-	14,579	3,787	1
(2) Agri-Stability	36,253	-	36,935	(682)	
Agri-Recovery	10,990	-	-	10,990	2
Total Sub-Appropriation	**65,609**	-	**51,514**	**14,095**	

1. *Agri-Invest is a savings account program to support income stability that allows producers to contribute annually based on their allowable net sales of eligible commodities and governments then match the contribution. The increase in 2008/09 is due to higher than anticipated producer contributions.*

2. *In 2008/09, the Province introduced the Forage Assistance, Forage Restoration Assistance and the Livestock Feed Assistance programs, which are cost-shared with Canada, to assist agricultural producers to manage restoration, feed and transportation costs associated with forage destroyed by excess moisture in the summer of 2008.*

Appropriation 2 (c) – Food Industry Development

This program provides support to Manitoba's food industry sector and fosters sustainable development and investment in that sector.

The expected results, as planned during the 2008/09 estimates process, are displayed below in italics followed by bulleted actual results.

Objective 1:

To provide financial assistance to food manufacturers/processors as they go through the various stages of new product development.

Diversification and growth of Manitoba's food manufacturing/processing industry.

- Introduction of the Manitoba Agri-Innovation Suite program to assist Manitoba-based entrepreneurs, enterprises, co-operatives and value chains to develop products from concept to market, for new innovative products in the agri-food industry. In 2008/09, $75.0 was provided to KUDU Foods for research and development costs associated with the development of a puff pastry pie product, $83.2 was approved for Best Cooking Pulses to commercialize and market 'Yumpeez' pea snack, a new roasted certified-organic product, $15.0 was approved for Totally Organic Beverages for a U.S. marketing campaign, $10.0 was approved for Palumbo Foods to develop an edible cup product, $4.5 was approved for PB&C Agri-Tech Solutions to develop a vegetable puree line, and $1.4 was approved for Grannies Favorites to develop high-end snack products for the gift and specialty markets.

- Contributed $309.4 towards the Manitoba-Canadian Model Aqua-Farm Initiative for the development and construction of a freshwater aquaculture production system that could be used as a model in the Province of Manitoba and across Canada.

Objective 2:

To promote local food products to Manitoba consumers.

Increased market share of Manitoba food products.

- Funding of $32.3 was provided to investigate the feasibility of establishing a Manitoba Buy Local Program.

Additional Results:

- In order to meet Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) standards, $50.0 was provided to the University of Manitoba, Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences to complete plant modifications and equipment upgrades to the Dairy Pilot Plant.

- Assisted the beef processing industry in complying with the new CFIA Specified Risk Material (SRM) disposal regulations by providing $26.9 to the Rural Municipality and Town of Minitonas for a feasibility study to determine a suitable SRM disposal method for the abattoirs in their region. The Town of The Pas was provided $13.6 toward a feasibility study/engineering analysis for a municipally-owned incinerator, and $10.8 was provided to Dauphin Meat Processors for an environmental assessment regarding the installation of an SRM incinerator and construction of an incinerator building.

- Introduction of the Country of Origin Labeling (COOL) Advocacy Strategy to assist the Manitoba livestock industry to capture advantages in the international market place. In 2008/09, $64.0 was provided for legal and research costs to develop trade action against the U.S. in advance of the implementation of COOL. An additional $22.0 was provided to Manitoba's representative in Washington for advocacy/lobbying work related to COOL.

2 (c) Food Industry Development

Expenditures by Sub-Appropriation	Actual 2008/2009 $(000s)	Estimate 2008/2009 FTEs	Estimate 2008/2009 $(000s)	Variance Over/(Under) $(000s)	Expl. No.
Grants/Transfer Payments	753	-	1,000	(247)	1
Total Sub-Appropriation	**753**	-	**1,000**	**(247)**	

1. *The variance is primarily the result of program deferrals and delays partially offset by one-time support for the development of a model fish farm.*

Appropriation 2 (d) – Farmland School Tax Rebate

The Manitoba Agricultural Services Corporation (MASC) assumed responsibility for the administration of the Farmland School Tax Rebate (FSTR) in 2005/06 from Manitoba Finance. The 2008 program provided a rebate of 70 percent of the school tax paid on Manitoba farmland. This was an increase from the 2007 rebate of 65 percent. Landowners have three years to apply for their rebate. The full cost of the program is paid by the Manitoba government.

The expected results, as planned during the 2008/09 estimates process, are displayed below in italics followed by bulleted actual results.

Objective 1:

Foster increased equity among rural land owners in support of educational costs.

Local education costs will be more equitably distributed.

- Rebating 70 percent of the school taxes levied on farmland is a significant move towards a more equitable distribution of school taxes amongst landowners. The Manitoba government has committed to increasing the rebate to 80 percent by 2010.

Objective 2:

Increase net farm income by reducing costs.

Net farm income will increase.

- In 2008/09, the FSTR cost, including a $5.1 million reduction due to adjustments to prior year accruals, totaled $25.4 million. As of March 31, 2009, MASC had processed over 30,800 applications for the 2008 program, with total rebates in excess of $27.0 million.

Objective 3:

Minimize administrative requirements for applicants.

- Administrative processes will continue to be streamlined. Pre-printed application forms continue to be provided to all landowners who received a rebate in the previous year. This significantly reduces the time it takes applicants to complete the required forms. The number of applications that were received and processed by March 31 increased by seven percent compared to the previous year.

2 (d) Farmland School Tax Rebate

Expenditures by Sub-Appropriation	Actual 2008/2009 $(000s)	Estimate 2008/2009 FTEs	Estimate 2008/2009 $(000s)	Variance Over/(Under) $(000s)	Expl. No.
Grants/Transfer Payments	25,432	-	30,194	(4,762)	1
Total Sub-Appropriation	**25,432**	-	**30,194**	**(4,762)**	

1. *The increase in school taxes in 2008 was more than offset by prior year adjustments, including the completion of the 2005 program year.*

Appropriation 2 (e) – Less: Recoverable from Rural Economic Development Initiatives (REDI)

The primary objective of this program is to provide for the recovery of expenditures related to the Food Industry Development Program, and to provide for the recovery of expenditures of REDI funding support provided to Manitoba Agricultural Services Corporation for the Rural Entrepreneur Assistance and Community Works Loan Programs.

The expected results, as planned during the 2008/09 estimates process, are displayed below in italics followed by bulleted actual results.

Objective 1:

To facilitate the funding necessary to implement financial programs directed at food manufacturers/processors involved in new food product development.

Objective 2:

To promote local food products to Manitoba consumers.

Objective 3:

REDI programs such as the Rural Entrepreneur Assistance Program and the Community Works Loan Program allow access to capital that is vital to new business starts, expansions and the purchase of existing businesses. Small and home-based businesses are especially important to the growth of rural communities.

Provision of the necessary funding for the delivery of the Food Industry Development Program, the Rural Entrepreneur Assistance Program, and the Community Works Loan Programs, to meet the requirements of rural and northern Manitoba.

- A total of $752.5 was provided for the Food Industry Development Program which included: $309.4 for the Manitoba-Canadian Model Aqua-Farm Initiative to develop and construct a freshwater aquaculture production system, $192.5 for the introduction of the Manitoba Agri-Innovation Suite program, $86.0 for the introduction of the Country of Origin Labeling Advocacy Strategy, $71.9 for assisting the beef processing industry to comply with the new Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) Specified Risk Material disposal regulations, $50.0 to the University of Manitoba, Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences to complete plant modifications and equipment upgrades to the Dairy Pilot Plant to meet CFIA standards, and $32.3 to investigate the feasibility of establishing a Manitoba Buy Local Program.
- Funding of $201.6 was provided for the salaries, operating costs and bad debt provision for the Rural Entrepreneur Assistance Program administered by Manitoba Agricultural Services Corporation.
- A total of $130.7 in funding was provided for interest costs for existing loans under the Community Works Loan Program.

2 (e) Less: Recoverable from Rural Economic Development Initiatives

Expenditures by Sub-Appropriation	Actual 2008/2009 $(000s)	FTEs	Estimate 2008/2009 $(000s)	Variance Over/(Under) $(000s)	Expl. No.
Recoveries	(1,085)	-	(1,864)	779	1
Total Sub-Appropriation	**(1,085)**	-	**(1,864)**	**779**	

1. *The under-recovery offsets a decrease in Rural Entrepreneur Assistance costs primarily resulting from a change in the loan loss provision as well as an under-expenditure in Food Industry Development.*

Appropriation 3
Agri-Industry Development and Innovation

The Agri-Industry Development and Innovation Division includes the following knowledge centres: Livestock Industry, Crop Industry, Land Use Planning, Agri-Environment, Chief Veterinary Office/Food Safety, and Agri-Food Innovation and Adaptation. The division also provides joint oversight, along with Manitoba Labour and Immigration, for the Farm Safety Coordinator.

The knowledge centres provide technical support, leadership, specialized services and information to staff, producers, and industry to enhance the development of Manitoba's agri-food industry and rural economy. They develop and extend leading-edge knowledge in specialized areas that also provide advice on the control and prevention of crop and livestock diseases. They administer the various laboratories and programs including the veterinary and crop diagnostic laboratories. The knowledge centre also provides advice and professional support in the areas of agronomy, livestock production, veterinary science, food safety, environmental sustainability, diversification, research, innovation and adaptation. The knowledge centres provide liaison and co-ordination of research with provincial and federal agri-food research agencies.

Agri-Food Research and Development Initiative

This initiative provides funding for an agriculture development and research initiative aimed at enhancing diversification and value-added opportunities in Manitoba's agri-food sector.

Agricultural Sustainability Initiative

This initiative provides funding assistance and support to provincial and local organizations to encourage the adoption of sustainable agricultural practices.

Grants to the University of Manitoba and the Prairie Agricultural Machinery Institute

These grants provide funding in support of agricultural research.

Appropriation 3 (a) – Livestock Industry

The mandate for the Livestock Knowledge Centre (LKC) is to further develop the primary and secondary livestock industries in Manitoba through support in the areas of farm production, business development and disease diagnosis. Responsibilities of the knowledge centre are provincial, national, and international in nature. The structure of the LKC includes three sections:

- Farm Production Extension (FPE)
- Industry Focus (IF)
- Veterinary Diagnostic Services (VDS)

The Farm Production Extension (FPE) section provided livestock programs, support, expertise, and resources in livestock production and animal health to Growing Opportunity (GO) teams, producers, veterinarians, industry groups and other stakeholders.

The Industry Focus (IF) section worked with GO areas, other knowledge centre business development specialists, industry groups, processors, stakeholders and others to expand both primary production and secondary livestock industries in Manitoba.

The Veterinary Diagnostic Services (VDS) laboratory provides diagnostic testing for Manitoba veterinarians supporting the livestock industry and companion animals across the province. In addition, the VDS laboratory also completed surveillance testing for foreign animal and reportable diseases for a variety of species.

The expected results, as planned during the 2008/09 estimates process, are displayed below in italics followed by bulleted actual results.

Objective 1:

To enhance environmentally sound, sustainable growth, development, diversification and productive capabilities of livestock producers and processors in all areas of Manitoba, including northern and Aboriginal communities, by providing technical, business and specialized services along the agri-food continuum.

The LKC is responsible for the acquisition, evaluation, development and transfer of leading-edge information to the department and livestock industry. This is accomplished in many ways, including developing and assisting relevant research projects, planning and delivery of seminars, writing of fact sheets and newsletters, updating and maintaining the livestock page on the Manitoba Government website and through individual consultation with producers and other stakeholders.

The LKC specialists provide written and verbal support to producers, staff and industry in the form of presentations, fact sheets, newsletters and articles.

- Delivered approximately 100 presentations on a wide variety of topics including business risk management (swine), animal health, biosecurity, age verification and winter feeding strategies (beef cattle).
- Wrote and/or edited 16 fact sheets and news articles in the areas of poultry and livestock production/management, animal health, biosecurity and age verification.
- Prepared and distributed two "Nutrition Update" newsletters to MAFRI staff, rural veterinarians and the feed industry.
- Wrote one article on, "Trouble Shooting Integrated Bacteria Counts" for distribution to Manitoba dairy producers through Dairy Farmers of Manitoba's monthly newsletter.
- Co-ordinated and wrote production articles for Manitoba Cattle Producers Association's newspaper *Cattle Country*.
- Updated references to regulations in the "Living with Livestock Production" fact sheet series.
- Updated the "Cost of Production Guidelines" for swine; feedlot, short keep and beef cows/calves; dairy cows and dairy heifers.
- Developed new "Cost of Production Guidelines" for veal production and laying hens.
- Organized and delivered ten poultry extension presentations/workshops to provincial and national audiences (approximately 600 participants).
- Organized and delivered 11 workshops on age verification to more than 150 producers.
- Organized and delivered five workshops on Low Stress Livestock Handling to over 100 female livestock producers.
- The 2009 Beef and Forage Days seminars had approximately 600 attendees at five locations.
- The 2009 Manitoba Swine Seminar had an attendance of more than 400 people.
- The 2008 Hog and Poultry Days attracted about 800 participants.
- The 2008 Manitoba Grazing School had 350 registrants.

Delivery of 14 producer seminars on marketing and cattle cycles.

- The LKC staff is actively involved in research projects for the benefit of Manitoba livestock producers. This involvement takes many forms including evaluation of project proposals submitted to Agri-Food Research and Development Initiative (ARDI), Manitoba Rural Adaptation Council and other agencies, developing proposals and co-operating with research stations such as the University of Manitoba and the Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, Brandon Research Centre.

- Participated in the "Best Management Practices for Manure Management on Forage Land" research project. This is a co-operative effort between MAFRI and the departments of Animal Science and Soil Science at the University of Manitoba.

- Participated in meetings with beef researchers in Western Canada to facilitate information sharing and research co-operation. Participants included University of Manitoba, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, Brandon Research Centre, Western Beef Development Centre and the Semiarid Prairie Agricultural Research Centre.

- Completed project on investigating manure centrifuge technology and prepared two reports.

- Participated with industry stakeholders on a research project exploring Commercial Group Sow Housing.

- Coordinated survey for calcium/phosphorus levels in Manitoba swine diets.

Recommendations on how to better manage dry poultry manure storage structures.

- A great deal of time and effort has been invested in developing appropriate recommendations. This work is ongoing and includes the monitoring of poultry farms and working closely with individual producers.

Continued trials on how to improve winter ventilation of poultry facilities to ensure animal health and care.

- LKC staff continues to perform cutting-edge research and development on barn ventilation in co-operation with producers, and are being widely recognized for the significant progress being made.

- Two ventilation workshops for producers were held, an online course was developed and is operational, and the work is ongoing.

Development of an environmentally sustainable method of composting end-of-lay hens outdoors under Manitoba conditions.

- This has been accomplished, extension materials developed, regional producer meetings have been held, and it is now in the hands of producers.

The LKC Specialists provide appropriate training and assistance to livestock producers, agri-business and staff in developing rations which utilize Manitoba feedstuffs, where appropriate, to meet nutritional and production goals.

- In 2008/09, staff provided over 250 rations to Manitoba livestock producers.

- Provided training to staff to effectively utilize the Cowbytes Ration Formulation software with the intent of encouraging self-reliance.

- Technical support to staff is ongoing on an "as requested" basis.

Responsible and environmentally sustainable expansion of the livestock industry in Manitoba through participation in the Technical Review Process for Intensive Livestock Operations process for sixteen to twenty proposals for livestock operations.

- Staff acted as provincial technical review co-coordinator and completed ten technical reviews.

- LKC engineering staff participated in all meetings of the Technical Review Process for Intensive Livestock Operations. Other LKC specialists are often contacted to provide specific technical information as part of the review process..

- LKC engineering staff has provided plans for 52 livestock production facilities as required for producers across the entire province. Many of these are to accommodate changes as the industry evolves; for example, evaluating options for the barns that are no longer needed for the equine ranching industry.

A federal/provincial plan in place for ruminant animals in case of any future border closure related to Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE), or other factors.

- The provincial Beef Feeder Cattle Specialist continues to participate in the federal/provincial Beef Roundtable to develop contingency plans to address this issue. The sensitivity of a positive BSE result is no longer as serious a marketing issue as there is confidence in the Canadian surveillance and mitigation process should there be a positive case.

- The LKC's VDS laboratory is testing for BSE and other Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathies as part of the national surveillance program.

Responses to inquiries from all areas of the livestock industry on brand-related and livestock identification issues.

- The LKC maintains the registration and database for livestock brand registrations.

- All inquiries regarding brand issues by the industry have been responded to and resolved.

There are 101 livestock dealers and 87 dealer's agents licensed to purchase cattle in Manitoba in 2008/09.

- A total of 48 visits were made to the 13 livestock auction marts.

- There were sales of approximately 365 livestock manifest books which are required when transporting any kind of livestock.

Development of on-farm bio-security and emergency preparedness plans for a disease outbreak such as Avian Influenza in co-operation with poultry producer associations.

- LKC is co-operating with the Chief Veterinary Officer (CVO) and other federal/provincial departments and producer organizations in an ongoing process to develop and implement this program.

- Staff participated in a mock emergency preparedness exercise for Foot and Mouth Disease.

Objective 2:

To enhance demand for Manitoba livestock and their products by providing information and programs to the livestock industry to improve and verify the quality and health of their animals, including usage in the nutraceutical and functional food markets.

- Individual ration advice was given to organic dairy and beef producers. The Finished Beef Business Development Specialist (BDS) participated as a member of the Organic Beef Production committee attending ten meetings and helping to set up seven loads of fat cattle for shipment to Nebraska. The Dairy BDS developed and organized a one-day organic dairy workshop for 35 attendees. He continued to work closely with Organic Meadow Processor Co-op to implement their quality and management standards. Four farm calls and two meetings were attended regarding organic milk production. He assisted two producers in the certification process.

- The LKC staff provided support to the Manitoba Grass Fed Beef Association through the appointment of the Farm Production Extension Cow-Calf Specialist as a technical advisor and has provided support to producers across the province. The specialist assisted with the development of the final report on the Argentina Technology Transfer Mission.

- Worked with industry stakeholders and a Russian delegation to develop export markets for beef and dairy heifers.

Delivery of planning and business development information at both producer seminars and on an individual basis.

- Business development information has been included as a part of all producer meetings participated in by LKC business development staff, along with the offer of individual consultations.

Assistance to the swine industry in developing new slaughter capacity.

- LKC staff have worked and will continue to work closely with Manitoba Pork and other government departments and provincial and municipal agencies to address this issue.

Advice to livestock producers on the trade issue (Mandatory Country of Origin Labelling - mCOOL) that may have negative trade implications with the U.S.

- LKC staff has worked closely with Manitoba Pork on this issue. Among other considerations, mCOOL has resulted in a drastic reduction in the U.S. market for Manitoba weanlings.

- A website to link producers in Manitoba with empty barns to producers with surplus weanlings has been developed.

- An agreement with Manitoba Pork and Winnipeg Harvest was developed to use sows from the federal cull sow program as a food source for Winnipeg Harvest.

Movement of bison meat from the First Nations market station into nursing stations and community kitchens for health and nutritional benefits.

- Discussions are ongoing and will continue with First Nations and northern communities through the Northern Healthy Foods Committee on how best to achieve this.

Development of a business plan that will attract investors and support local provincial plants wishing to update their status to federal possibly European Union (EU) kill and processing standards.

- There has been very little interest from the private sector in developing an EU plant in Manitoba at the present time given the competitive nature of the industry.

Development of a bison market station which will increase economic returns to First Nation bison herds, expand the seed stock herds for First Nations, and expand meat markets into the north, as well as Europe.

- The Bison Marketing Station is in operation and approximately 319 bison were on-site from the First Nations bands that are participating in the project.

- LKC staff use the marketing station to promote production management, livestock handling, disease control and marketing with participants from the various First Nations communities that raise bison.

Development of Made in Manitoba bison products as well as branded bison products unique to Manitoba.

- Business development staff are working with the Manitoba Bison Association, Food Development Centre and Richardson's Centre for Nutraceuticals to develop this initiative.

Development of export permits required for shipment of chicks and poults to Minnesota and other U.S. states. Inspection of 64 hatchery supply flocks on 42 farms to ensure Manitoba poultry meets domestic and international requirements in support of $8 million of chick and poultry exports to the U.S.

- Manitoba annually exports to the U.S. leghorn chicks, turkey poults and hatching eggs with a market value of approximately $8 million.

- Manitoba annually exports approximately ten percent of our turkey production, or 1.2 million kilograms of live turkeys to the U.S. To enable these exports to take place, 62 hatchery supply flocks on 42 farms are inspected annually to ensure Manitoba's poultry industry meets both domestic and international health requirements.

Assistance to the Manitoba Goat Association in developing their Hazard Analysis Critical Control Points (HACCP) - based food safety program and consumer health education.

- The Sheep and Goat Specialist has devoted significant time and effort in meeting with the retailers, processors and several ethnic groups to promote availability and consumption of inspected meat products.

- The demand for goat meat, slaughtered and processed in accordance with Halal and/or Kosher requirements continues to grow. With a shortage of processing capability to meet these requirements, and often a lack of consumer awareness regarding the implications of purchasing and consuming uninspected meat products, the market for these uninspected products still exists. Staff continues to make progress in both the retail availability of inspected sheep and goat meat products, and in the area of consumer food safety awareness.

Implementation of the Milk Quality Assurance Program by developing a safety-based, milk production management program.

- The Dairy BDS works closely with the Dairy Farmers of Manitoba to deliver Manitoba's Milk Quality Assurance Program.

- The dairy specialist is involved in working with dairy producers to troubleshoot dairy management problems to ensure safe milk production. In 2008/09, 38 farm visits relating to milk quality were conducted.

The establishment of an aquaculture producer association and provision of resources to assist producers to establish a business.

- The Aquaculture BDS is working with all industry players in order to provide potential producers, financial institutions, and other governmental departments and agencies with assurance that the industry is financially viable in Manitoba, that it will meet environmental regulations, and also to provide a training venue for potential producers.

- The Aquaculture BDS was instrumental in acquiring the funding and approvals necessary to establish Manitoba's first model land-based fish farm which was announced in December 2008. This model will showcase production management, record production and capital costs for budgeting purposes and monitor for environmental management.

Provision of appropriate training and assistance to livestock producers, veterinarians and staff in developing animal health programs including those for general herd biosecurity and prevention of bovine tuberculosis (TB).

- Staff continued their involvement in tuberculosis risk management in conjunction with the Manitoba Bovine Tuberculosis Task Group and the Riding Mountain Eradication Area (RMEA). Specific activities included:
    - Fencing of winter feeding areas for seven producers in the summer of 2008.

- Ten guardian dogs were placed with producers within RMEA in 2008. A total of 36 dogs have now been placed and are working for 16 producers. Dog movement was monitored at Boggy Creek with the use of GPS collars.
- Ongoing consultation with producers and industry stakeholders through conducting 18 on farm risk assessments and working with multiple groups including Manitoba Cattle Producers Association, Manitoba Conservation and Parks Canada.
- Producers who had their animals tested in the 2008/09 test year were eligible for a $6.00 per head mustering fee from the province.
- Producers outside the RMEA, who were subject to testing due to trace backs, were also eligible for the $6.00 per head payment.
- Active involvement in the TB task group, the TB stakeholder's advisory committee and the TB scientific review committee.

Objective 3:

To enhance animal health in Manitoba by providing accurate, timely and affordable veterinary diagnostic services through the Provincial Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory and supporting veterinary rural practice through administration of the Rural Veterinary District Program, Large Animal Veterinary Retention Program, Veterinary Science Scholarship Fund and Veterinary Summer Student Program.

The Provincial Veterinary Diagnostic Services Laboratory will be expanded to add capacity to be able to do additional testing to meet the demands of a Foreign Animal Disease (FAD); for example, Avian Influenza.

- Upgrades to the laboratory have been ongoing throughout the year, with the design and planned construction of FAD laboratory space, enlargement of the sample receiving area, and relocation of the bacteriology section.

- The majority of the construction is complete. A pre-certification inspection of the FAD space by CFIA Office of Biohazard Containment and Safety took place on December 17, 2008. The deficiency report in respect to physical and operational requirements of the FAD containment standards was submitted to VDS and correction of deficiencies is underway.

- In addition to Avian Influenza, staff of the VDS virology laboratory has been certified to perform tests for Classical Swine Fever, Foot and Mouth Disease and Avian Paramyxovirus.

- The Quality Assurance Officer began in May 2008 to lead VDS through ISO 17025 accreditation required for FAD testing.

In the Provincial Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory, provision of 189,000 diagnostic tests and professional reports on 21,748 cases to support rural and urban veterinarians. Completion of 4,000 Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathies (TSE) tests in bovine, sheep and cervids, and completion of 800 additional tests in support of various disease surveillance programs (avian influenza). VDS generates and administers revenue from diagnostic services of $1.5 million.

- The laboratory received 19,929 cases and performed 147,392 tests in 2008/09 with revenue of $1.3 million. Tests and revenue were down 17 percent and 15 percent respectively over 2007/08.

- The 2008/09 actual VDS revenue decrease is a direct result of decreased tests. This was likely due to negative impact of a high Canadian dollar in the early part of the year, low prices and the implementation of mCOOL.

- A total of 5,922 tests were performed in the TSE laboratory representing a seven percent increase over 2007/08.

- Seven hundred and seventy additional tests in support of various surveillance programs were completed.

Along with the CVO, administration of The Livestock and Livestock Products Act, The Livestock Industry Diversification Act, The Animal Liability Act, The Veterinary Services Act, The Veterinary Science Scholarship Act, and associated regulations.

- Staff from the LKC work closely with the CVO staff in all aspects of the acts noted above.

Provision of work experience and funds to encourage the return of veterinary students to a rural practice after graduation.

- Large Animal Veterinary Retention scholarships: Scholarships of $5.0 were given to ten Manitoba students in their third or fourth year at the Western College of Veterinary Medicine (WCVM). In return for each $5.0 award received, the recipient has agreed to work for one year in a rural Manitoba veterinary clinic.

- Veterinary Science scholarships: 18 Manitoba students at the WCVM were awarded $1.5 in 2008/09. This can be paid back over five years through employment in a rural Manitoba veterinary clinic.

- Eighteen veterinary students were successfully placed with veterinarians for summer employment through the Student Temporary Employment Program (STEP) program.

Requisition of appropriate grants and supervision of 27 public animal hospitals (clinics) to ensure that Veterinary Service Districts meet their commitments.

- An operating grant of $464.1 was distributed among 27 veterinary service districts.

- LKC staff attended meetings of the Veterinary Services Commission (VSC) and advised as to government acts, regulations and/or any changes that may apply in order to properly manage the veterinary services program across Manitoba.

- Assisted the VSC with the dispersal of the Veterinary Technical Enhancement Grant. In 2008/09, the grant was for $200.0 and varying amounts were allocated to the 22 out of 27 veterinary service districts which requested funding.

- Worked directly with the Veterinary Services District Boards and the Veterinary Services Commission to address local issues in the delivery of veterinary services to their communities.

- Provided technical assistance to the Veterinary Services Task Force. Participated in Task Force meetings and helped compile the resulting information. The Task Force was established by the Minister to review and make recommendations on veterinary services in Manitoba. The Task Force submitted its final report on July 3, 2008.

Additional Results:

LKC specialists provide valuable policy information on a wide range of livestock related issues. In 2008/09, the issues included:

- Traceability (beef and swine).

- Extremes of moisture – drought in the Southwest, flooding in the Interlake.

- Manitoba Forage Assistance Program.

- Manitoba Livestock Feed Assistance Program.

- Meeting with Manitoba Egg Producers to discuss support of their food safety initiative through increased environmental testing at VDS for Salmonella, a requirement of their new national insurance program.

3 (a) Livestock Industry

Expenditures by Sub-Appropriation	Actual 2008/2009 $(000s)	Estimate 2008/2009 FTEs	Estimate 2008/2009 $(000s)	Variance Over/(Under) $(000s)	Expl. No.
(1) Salaries and Employee Benefits	4,834	65.55	4,481	353	
(2) Other Expenditures	1,622		1,705	(83)	
(3) Grant Assistance - Operating	571		495	76	
(4) Grant Assistance - Capital	200		200	-	
Total Sub-Appropriation	**7,227**	**65.55**	**6,881**	**346**	

Appropriation 3 (b) – Chief Veterinary Office/Food Safety

The overall objective of the Chief Veterinary Office (CVO) / Food Safety (FS) Knowledge Centre is to protect animals, food and people through five strategic goals:

- To protect the health of the public from diseases of animals that can pass directly or indirectly from animals to people.
- To protect the safety of the food supply from farm to fork, to safeguard the health of Manitobans and to support confidence in Manitoba's food system at home and abroad.
- To protect the health and welfare of animals for economic or intrinsic benefit.
- To protect trade in agricultural products through health certification and assurance programs.
- To ensure a secure food supply for Manitobans in the event of a massive disruption in the food distribution system.

The CVO/FS Knowledge Centre is also mandated to provide effective administration of the following acts, associated regulations and funds: *The Dairy Act*, *The Livestock and Livestock Products Act*, *The Livestock Industry Diversification Act*, *The Animal Liability Act*, *The Animal Diseases Act*, *The Animal Care Act*, and the Veterinary Science Scholarship Fund.

The expected results, as planned during the 2008/09 estimates process, are displayed below in italics followed by bulleted actual results.

Objective 1:

To protect the safety of the food supply from farm to fork, to safeguard the health of Manitobans and to support confidence in Manitoba's food system at home and abroad.

Inspections of all dairy farms and licensed dairy processing facilities to ensure adherence to sanitation and production/processing requirements and to ensure all pasteurized dairy products are processed according to regulations.

- A total of 560 dairy farm inspections were completed.

Registration of all milk producers and licensing of provincial dairy processing plants and key dairy processing personnel in Manitoba.

- A total of 400 registered dairy farms were inspected at least annually by the province for compliance to *The Dairy Act* and regulation.
- There are 54 milk pasteurizer operators, 57 milk receivers, and 75 bulk milk graders currently licensed in the province.
- There is one provincially-licensed dairy plant in the province.
- Provided a four-day milk pasteurizer operator licence course in co-operation with the University of Manitoba.

Assurance to consumers that Manitoba products are safe, high quality products.

- A monitoring survey was undertaken in Manitoba to examine for the presence of 14 pharmaceutical residues in retail milk. Forty-eight samples were collected and tested. No residues were found.
- Staff responded to consumer enquiries regarding safety of food products.
- National groups have developed, or are developing, 26 national Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point (HACCP) - based on-farm food safety programs. Staff participated in the development of the pork, bison, sheep and goat programs, and in the implementation plans for pig and turkey programs.

- Thirteen of the 26 programs have been reviewed and deemed technically sound by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) and the provinces. Staff participated in technical reviews for chickens, eggs, broiler hatching eggs, feed, bison, potatoes, small fruit, pig, cattle (two), dairy, grain, turkeys, herbs and spices, natural health products, and honey.

Increased participation by producers in recognized on-farm HACCP-based food safety programs.

- Six hundred and seventy-four of the 682 pork producers in Manitoba have been audited to the Canadian Quality Assurance Program.

- Twenty-three of the 400 dairy farms have been certified on the Canadian Quality Milk Program and 350 have completed their standard operating procedures and treatment records.

- Approximately 98 percent of the egg producers are on the Start Clean-Stay Clean on-farm food safety program.

- Approximately 98 percent of the potato producers in Manitoba have implemented and have been audited on their compliance to the national on-farm food safety program for potato production.

- All 118 broiler producers are certified under the On-Farm Food Safety Assurance Program (OFFSAP).

- There are currently 22 of 24 broiler breeder producers audited on OFFSAP and 14 are certified.

- Forty-eight of the 58 turkey producers have been audited and 25 have been certified under the national on-farm food safety program. Department staff were involved in the training and auditing of turkey producers for the program.

Development of harmonized regulations and codes for food safety with other governments.

- Drafted a new *Food Safety Act* that applies to non-federally registered food processing plants in Manitoba. This harmonizes food safety inspection powers with those of Manitoba Health and Healthy Living (MHHL) food safety inspection. Bill 7-*The Food Safety and Related Amendments Act* had first reading on December 3, 2008.

- Participated in the federal/provincial/territorial (F/P/T) Working Group for Common National Meat Hygiene Standard.

- Participated in F/P Dairy, Dairy Plant Registration & Inspection Committee.

- Participated in the Co-ordinating Committee on Dairy Regulatory Standards.

- Participated in the F/P/T Food Safety Committee.

- Developed the Manitoba Dairy Regulation that is consistent with the National Dairy Regulation.

- Participated on the F/P/T Pathogen Reduction Working Group.

- Participated on the National Post-Farm Food Safety Recognition Program Committee.

Increased consumer awareness of Manitoba's agricultural industry and agriculture and food products.

- Staff responded to a wide range of consumer enquiries with their current technical consumer-related knowledge and distributed food safety related information to consumers.

- Participated in Ag-in-the-City at the Forks which was a three-day event targeted at consumers and developed a consumer food safety short video. Also participated in Ag Days in Brandon and distributed food safety information to consumers.

Awareness of industry stakeholders of food safety programs through the Growing Forward policy framework's Food Safety Initiatives.

- Stakeholder Uptake
  By March 2009, 18 percent of food processors eligible for Agricultural Policy Framework funding had successfully developed good manufacturing practices (GMP), HACCP or International Organization of Standardization (ISO) 22000 food safety programs. There was a wide variety of participants, including food processors of commodities such as meat, grain, seed crushers, beverages, baked goods, confectionary and spices.
  Currently developing an auditing system to recognize provincial food processors that have implemented food safety programs that are approved by Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives (MAFRI).

- Training
  Food Safety Initiative (FSI) staff developed three one-day workshops on GMPs, HACCP and how to write food safety programs. Eleven workshops were delivered to 235 food manufacturing industry personnel, MAFRI staff, students, consultants and food service personnel. Staff also developed custom training on request for a number of facilities.
  A three-day extraneous matter course was developed and delivered by the University of Manitoba and offered to MAFRI, MHHL staff and Manitoba food processing industry personnel.
  A three-day food plant sanitation course was delivered in co-operation with Ecolab targeted at high risk food processing industry.

- Food Safety and Quality Website
  Nine new pages were added to the Food Safety and Quality website which now contains close to 100 web pages, 25 fact sheets, and five food safety posters.
  Statistics show that web page views increased by 2.4 times (3,825 to 9,323) from September 2007 to September 2008.
  The complete content of the website was translated into French.
  Comments from website users include: "user friendly," "useful and direct links," "good technical information available" and "good reference material for training staff."

- Food Safety and Quality E-bulletin
  Monthly notification system containing current food safety news and technical food safety information has been distributed since February 2007.
  A total of 250 subscribers including MAFRI staff, food processors, consultants, faculty members and students from several universities worldwide.

- Technical Resource Centre
  Scientific and technical information for the development of written programs (GMPs and HACCP) was provided to food processors.
  Fifty-three food safety questions/requests from food processors, consultants, consumers and government staff were answered.
  Questions and requests came from Manitoba, other Canadian provinces and other countries including England, India, Sri Lanka, USA and Singapore.

- Collaboration with other agencies and associations
  Contributed to the development of HACCP generic modules by CFIA for plaster and chocolate manufacturing.
  Contributed to the development of Canadian Grain Commission generic HACCP modules for the grain and oilseed sectors that was released in April 2009.
  Co-sponsored the "Food Safety.....It Matters" Conference with Manitoba Food Processors Association (MFPA) (September, 2008) with 150 participants. A similar event is planned for 2009.
  Developing an auditing system to recognize provincial food processors that have implemented MAFRI-approved food safety programs.
  Participated in five Food Product Development Seminars that were targeted at people starting new food business in Manitoba.

Development of on-farm food safety and traceability programs in partnership with provincial commodity

groups.

- Staff was trained to be auditors of the national on-farm food safety program for turkey production.
- Developed good agricultural practices that are based on national on-farm food safety programs.
- Staff worked with Manitoba Turkey Producers to develop an on-farm auditing system and to train turkey producers on the national on-farm food safety program.
- Staff conducted 38 on-farm food safety and flock-care audits, and was also involved in the training of turkey producers for the program.

Development, implementation, and recognition of On-Farm Food Safety and Quality Assurance Programs in partnership with the Canadian Food Inspection Agency, other governments and industry.

- Participated in two on-farm food safety technical reviews for the Canadian Horticulture Council's Small Fruit Producer and Packer On-Farm Food Safety Committee (OFFSP) and the Canadian Honey Council.
- Participated in the F/P/T OFFSP that is developing the government criteria for recognition of on-farm food safety programs.

Participation in the development of a National Policy on Traceability for Canada's agri-food sector which will allow the tracking of the movement of farm inputs, animals, plant food ingredients and food products from one point in the food chain to another.

- Initiated the design and implementation of a premises identification for livestock producers, as part of Manitoba's commitment to agri-food traceability.
- Staff participated in F/P/T traceability initiatives.
- Initiated a pilot project to demonstrate the feasibility of full chain traceability within Manitoba's food production system.

Additional Results:

Inspect elk game production farms and regulate other aspects of the game production industry to ensure stakeholders are adhering to regulatory requirements.

- There are currently 46 elk game production farms licensed in Manitoba.
- A total of 50 elk game production farm inspections were completed during the fiscal year.
- A total of 1,475 elk were slaughtered in federally-registered and provincially-permitted abattoirs.

Develop risk-based food safety inspection for potential use in non-federally registered food processing plants.

- Worked in conjunction with MHHL to develop the database for food establishment inspection.
- Set up training course for public health inspectors and MAFRI staff on the use of the consolidated food premise and inspection database.

Administer the Canada/Manitoba Meat Inspection Agreement.

- Provided inspection services to 28 provincially-registered abattoirs: two poultry, four swine and 22 mixed (cattle, swine, lamb, goat, sheep, bison).

- Two provincial abattoirs are under new ownership.

- Provided information to entrepreneurs interested in the provincial meat inspection system.

- Participated in F/P/T initiatives to develop and implement common food safety, traceability and quality goals; for example, the recognition of HACCP equivalency of legislation and inspection programs.
    - FSI Growing Forward
    - F/P/T Food Safety.
    - F/P Dairy, Dairy Plant Registration & Inspection
    - National Liaison Group on Milk Product Quality
    - International Dairy Federation Canada
    - Co-ordinating Committee on Dairy Regulatory Standards
    - On-Farm Food Safety Program Technical Reviews
    - Intranet/Internet Committee
    - National Post-Farm Food Safety Recognition Program
    - On-Farm Food Safety Sub-Committee
    - Common National Meat Hygiene Working Group
    - Pathogen Reduction Working Group
    - F/P/T Working Group on Specified Risk Management Disposal Funding
    - Mass Disposal Site Selection Working Group
    - Import and Domestic Systems Working Group
    - CFIA Generic HACCP Technical Review Committee
    - Canadian Grain Commission Technical Expert Advisory Committee (TEAC)
    - Canadian Grain Commission's TEAC HACCP Sub-committee

- Developed knowledge management tools to support food safety education and inspection programs.

- Continued to develop a database program for food safety inspection in co-operation with MHHL.

Objective 2:

To protect the health of the public from diseases that can pass directly or indirectly from animals to people.

Established surveillance measures for significant livestock diseases in co-operation with the Canadian Food Inspection Agency, and other federal and provincial government departments.

- In February the Mexican new variant pandemic swine H1N1 Influenza-A emerged. The office was able to build on previous work in laboratory data management to facilitate the national reporting of influenza in swine through the Canadian Animal Health Surveillance Network (CAHSN) system.

- The office initiated an investigation *of Acinobacillus equuli*, a newly emerging bacteria which caused septicemia in pigs of various ages. This agent has not been previously identified as a pathogen of swine. A manuscript is in preparation for the Canadian Veterinary Journal.

Creation of early warning systems for new and emerging diseases of animals.

- Initiated a laboratory-based monitoring program for *Salmonella enterica*, serovar *enteriditis*, a common cause of gastroenteritis in humans, which is emerging in broiler chicken production in Manitoba. Attended initial provincial policy meeting on this issue in Calgary, October 1, 2008 and *S. enteriditis* is an emerging disease in poultry in Western Canada.

- At the beginning of the H1N1 outbreak in Canada, CVO/Food Safety created and published an on-line interactive atlas of animal densities (including swine) for Canada, using data from the 2006 Census of Agriculture. The link for this atlas was distributed widely across Canada through public health veterinary networks.

- In collaboration with CFIA, staff worked with CAHSN to develop an on-line syndrome builder to

facilitate early identification of disease outbreaks using laboratory submissions made to the Manitoba Provincial Veterinary Diagnostic laboratory. Intensive work on the development and validation of syndromes was initiated by Dr. Glen Duizer (thesis topic for Master's Degree, Atlantic Veterinary College, PEI).

- Using the North American Animal Diseases Simulation Model, built and validated a number of scenarios for outbreaks of Avian Influenza in Manitoba, comparing the effects of bio-security and flock destruction on disease and outbreak length.

- With funding from the national GeoConnections infrastructure program, undertook a user's needs assessment for a Decision Support System for Animal Emergencies (DSSAE). CVO/Food Safety has now received funding to build the system from GeoConnections, which should be completed by March 2010. The DSSAE is a critical decision support tool to track and manage control activities in the event of an animal disease emergency in Manitoba, and to co-ordinate recovery activities.

Co-ordination of issues involving zoonotic diseases among Provincial Departments of Agriculture, Health and Conservation.

- In fulfillment of our commitment to collaboration with other agencies and dissemination of current information related to zoonotic disease trends in Manitoba, a peer-reviewed paper was written and published in the Canadian Veterinary Journal. Authors Thompson and Sexsmith were summer students in the office of the CVO, Glover is a veterinarian with the Winnipeg Zoo, Postey and Hutchinson are veterinary pathologists in the Livestock KC and Kazacos is an international expert of this particular zoonotic parasite (*B procyonis*) working in the USA. This parasite had not been previously reported in the prairie region of Canada.

Additional Results:

- In fulfillment of our commitment to collaboration with other agencies and dissemination of current information related to disease trends in Manitoba livestock, two scientific papers were submitted and published in the Canadian Veterinary Journal. This work with pre-existing swine influenza assisted staff in incorporating and evaluating the current threat of H1N1 new variants with the swine-like human influenza.

Minimization of the threat of animal diseases being transmitted to humans and other animals.

- Initiated research/surveillance projects relevant to the transmission of zoonotic diseases to humans as follows:
    - In collaboration with Cadham Provincial Laboratory, launched a research project focusing on the joint spatial distribution of *Salmonella* sub-types in humans and animals. Applications have been made to the Health Information and Privacy Committee at Manitoba Health and to The Ethics Centre at the University of Manitoba to proceed with the project, with research expected to begin in the fall of 2009.

    - In collaboration with scientists from the National Microbiology Laboratory in Winnipeg and Cadham Provincial Laboratory, undertook a study of the spatial distribution of methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA) sub-types in Manitoba. The results will be presented as a poster (Molecular Epidemiology of MRSA in Manitoba) at the International Conference of Chemotherapy and Infection in June 2009 in Toronto, Ontario.

    - Sent a staff member to participate in the voluntary depopulation of the Alberta H1N1 infected swine herd.

Implementation of the federal enhanced Specified Risk Materials feed ban in co-operation with other governments and industry.

- With Economy and Rural Development Knowledge Centre, delivered the Manitoba Specified Risk Material Initiative (MSRMI).

- MSRMI funded two feasibility studies and ten projects for a total of $874.5 ($503.8 federal [60%], $370.7 provincial [40%]).

Objective 3:

To protect the health and welfare of animals for economic or intrinsic benefit.

Creation of emergency response plans related to animal-based emergencies.

- Continuing to develop foreign animal disease and other emergency management plans based on the format of the successful Avian Influenza response and communication plan.

Participation in the development of a National Animal Health Policy.

- A final version of the National Farmed Animal Health and Welfare policy paper has been generated with significant input from the office of the CVO. This paper has been presented to the F/P/T Regulatory and Policy Assistant Deputy Minsters, and to Deputy Ministers. Upon approval of the Deputy Ministers, this document will go forward for Ministerial approval in the fall of 2009. Approval from the Ministers will provide direction leading to further development of the concept.

Investigation of complaints and corrective measures taken where necessary concerning inhumane treatment of animals.

- Several long-form prosecutions were initiated and staff have been trained in prosecution by use of the Common Offence Notice.

Participation in the development of a National Policy on On-Farm Animal Welfare for Canada's agri-food sector.

- Dr. Terry Whiting, Manager – Animal Health and Welfare, is currently the Chair of the Animal Welfare Committee of the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association. He and other staff members are active in the commodity animal welfare initiatives for poultry and pigs.

Registration and maintenance of a quality assurance system for licensed kennels and pet breeders in Manitoba.

- A template inspection form was developed for use by Animal Protection Officers. This process is to be used as part of the process to develop a more standardized approach to the routine inspection of kennels and other licensed facilities.

Management of up to 1,000 complaints and 300 inspections under The Animal Care Act. Support to the RCMP in prosecutions of animal cruelty under the Criminal Code.

- Of the approximately 300 complaints that warranted further investigation, 53% were summarily dismissed, 24% required some corrective action, 14% are still pending and 9% required either seizures, surrender of animals, or prosecution. Seventy percent of the investigations involved companion animals, 30% involved agricultural food-production animals.

Additional Results:

The presence of the Student Temporary Employment Program allows for the development and completion of small student-directed research projects especially where there is excellent co-operation from the affected livestock industry. Collaboration with a large assembly yard allowed for an examination of the welfare of cull boars assembled for export to the United States and the publication of a peer-reviewed paper.

In fulfillment of the commitment to communicate with the veterinary and scientific community in Manitoba and Canada several other papers and essays were also published this year in the Canadian Veterinary Journal (CVJ). The CVJ is received by every veterinarian in western Canada who is licensed to practice

veterinary medicine and forms apart of the continuing education resources of the profession.

Objective 4:

To protect trade in agricultural products through health certification and assurance programs.

Inspections of hatchery supply flocks and facilitation of the export of poultry products under the poultry enhancement program.

- Sixty-two hatchery supply flocks were inspected.
- Eight hatcheries were licensed.
- Inspected 117 poultry farms to ensure compliance to safety and quality standards.
- Tested six commercial turkey flocks and trained managers in swab sampling for Avian Influenza to facilitate export to Minnesota.
- Twelve poultry dealers were licensed.

Additional Results:

In fulfillment of our commitment to collaboration with other public health agencies staff are consulted and participate in topics where they have special skills such as data analysis and epidemiology.

Objective 5:

To ensure a secure food supply for Manitobans in the event of a massive disruption in the food distribution system, such as during a human influenza pandemic.

- The Food Crisis Emergency Planning system is being developed. Piloted the food crisis emergency planning collection software.
- A Federal/Provincial/Industry Committee is developing a Manitoba emergency food supply management plan within the Emergency Management Organization framework.
- Project proposal for funding on the "Manitoba Nutrition Supply in Event of a Pandemic" with the Asper School of Business was completed and is being used to develop the database to review any vulnerability in Manitoba's food supply system, and as resource material for the project.
- Developed amendments to *The Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives Act* which will require all Manitoba's food processing premises to supply information regarding food they produce. This will be valuable in dealing with disruptions to Manitoba's food supply in an emergency.
- Develop training material for MHHL and MAFRI inspectors for Food Crisis Emergency Planning System.

3 (b) Chief Veterinary Office/Food Safety

Expenditures by Sub-Appropriation	Actual 2008/2009 $(000s)	Estimate 2008/2009 FTEs	Estimate 2008/2009 $(000s)	Variance Over/(Under) $(000s)	Expl. No.
(1) Salaries and Employee Benefits	1,444	28.50	1,489	(45)	
(2) Other Expenditures	1,273		1,570	(297)	1
Total Sub-Appropriation	**2,717**	**28.50**	**3,059**	**(342)**	

1. *The decrease from the 2008/09 estimate is mainly due to expenditure management measures, including the deferral of travel and discretionary purchases. In addition, lower than anticipated costs were incurred for the agri-food traceability and food safety surveillance program pending completion of the Premise ID registration system.*

Appropriation 3 (c) – Crop Industry

Farm Production Extension Section

Pest Management group

The production of agricultural and horticultural crops in Manitoba occurs in a short, intense growing season. Taking those commodities to the next phase in processing, or into safe storage, depends on protection from pests. Some pests, such as weeds, need to be managed throughout the season but especially early in the production cycle. Other pests, such as insects and some diseases, appear suddenly and/or increase rapidly and attack at specific vulnerable stages of plant development. Intervention often requires decisive, responsive management. Some pests, particularly diseases, can only be managed effectively by forecasting the risk of infection. Otherwise, prevention and prophylaxis are the usual control options. Pests categorized as invasive alien species require vigilance to prevent establishment when they are first detected in Manitoba.

Technical specialists in the Farm Production Extension (FPE) section of the Crops Knowledge Centre (KC) are leaders in evaluation of true risk and clear communicators of appropriate responses. They also train other agricultural professionals in integrated pest management (scouting, monitoring, etc.) and prepare extension resources such as crop protection guides.

Resource Management Group

Optimizing crop production depends on careful assessment of soil and moisture conditions throughout the growing season. Moisture extremes, flooding and drought account for most of the insurable losses in crop production. Soil fertility and crop nutritional requirements are complex. In order to nurture a healthy crop and prevent losses to the surrounding environment, producers regularly seek out unbiased advice in managing commercial fertilizers and/or animal manures.

Technical specialists in the Crops KC's FPE section are leaders in the assessment and interpretation of crop requirements in the disciplines of agrometeorology, soil fertility and crop nutrition, and irrigation management. They are also well integrated with the commodity specialists in the Crops KC, with field staff throughout Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives (MAFRI), and are regularly engaged in extension of services. The Manitoba Ag-Weather Program supports such diverse activities as pest risk forecasting and crop residue burning authorizations.

Industry Focus Section

This section is made up of 16 Business Development Specialists (BDS) that have core knowledge and competence in Manitoba's key commodity areas. The section is required to have current knowledge of production techniques and limiting factors as well as the overall market forces that drive the respective commodities. The Industry Focus Section consults and works with a large number of provincial and national producer associations and is expected to provide direction and leadership on various issues. Our mandate also includes the support of value-added production and processing in Manitoba. Our goal is to make available information such as the location of the raw commodity, the consistency of supply, and the specific quality of the commodity being further developed. The overriding factors to consider are profitability and environmental sustainability of agri-food production and processing in Manitoba.

The expected results, as planned during the 2008/09 estimates process, are displayed below in italics followed by bulleted actual results.

Objective 1:

To provide producers, agri-business, GO team staff, other departments and governments with technical information and specialized services that enhance diversification, productivity, and profitability in Manitoba's agri-food sector.

Financial assistance to rural municipalities (RMs) for grasshopper control on public lands if needed. Rebates can vary from 30 percent to 100 percent of the costs incurred by RMs. Total rebates have varied from $0 to $512.0 (in the outbreak year of 1985). Average total payments over the past ten years have been about $24.0.

- Financial assistance to municipalities for grasshopper control on public lands if needed. In 2008, one RM received $2.6 in assistance.

Publication and marketing of 4,200 copies of the most recent issue of the Guide to Field Crop Protection.

- Publication and marketing of 4,200 copies of the 2009 issue of the Guide to Field Crop Protection.

Work with the Manitoba Seed Growers Association, Manitoba Crop Variety Evaluation Team (MCVET) and the publisher to develop, co-author and assist in the distribution of 25,000 copies of Seed Manitoba.

- Worked with the Manitoba Seed Growers' Association, MCVET and the publisher to develop, co-author and assist in the distribution of 25,000 copies of the Seed Manitoba magazine.

New and updated fact sheets and guides providing recommendations on crop production to growers and crop advisors.

- In particular the Guide to Vegetable Crop Protection and an Addendum to the Guide to Fruit Crop Protection.

Verbal recommendations to producers and agri-businesses relating to crops (field, forage, horticulture, organic production, medicinal and industrial), pasture and range management systems, weed, insect and disease control, and soil fertility.

- Staff provided producers and agri-businesses with recommendations as follows:
  - Crop Diagnostic Centre, 500
  - Horticulture pathology, 300
  - Horticulture entomology, 500
  - Horticulture agronomy, 345
  - Horticulture weeds, 35
  - Greenhouse business development, 85
  - Potato pests, 150
  - Field crop entomology, 50
  - Seeds, 380
  - Crop nutrition, 200
  - Irrigation, 80
  - Agro meteorology, 120
  - Minor Use & Regulations, 60
  - Potato production, 250
  - Organic, 775
  - Fruits, 500 phone, 1500 email, and 30 in-person and field visits
  - Leaf-cutting bee, 60
  - Honey bee, 720
  - Forages, 350
  - Range and pasture management, 300
  - Vegetables, 275
  - Pulses, 600
  - Feed grains, 275
  - Oilseeds, 500.

- Producers and agri-business were provided with timely information, allowing them to make informed decisions that ultimately affect the economic and environmental sustainability of their operations.

- Specialists of the Crops KC are well recognized as leaders and authorities in their sectors and areas of expertise. They are widely sought after for any and all events where sound agronomic practice is

the focus. Staff is well aware of current issues that affect key sectors and can provide timely responses to the Minister and her team when questions or concerns arise. .

Publication and distribution of seasonal bulletins during the growing season including the weekly Crop Report.

- In 2008/09 there were 16 Weekly Vegetable Reports, 12 Insect Updates, ten Crop Diagnostic Lab Reports, more than 20 Manitoba Crop Reports, more than 20 Manitoba Commodity Reports, more than 20 Manitoba Weather Reports, as well as seasonal daily postings of the *Potato News* and Fusarium Head Blight Risk Forecasts.

- Publication and distribution of seasonal bulletins during the growing season, including the weekly Manitoba Crop Report, 36 weekly Manitoba Crop Weather Reports, the Forage Seed Report, the Vegetable Report, and 17 updates to the Crop Status Section of the Manitoba Potato News Website,.

- Daily late blight forecast and irrigation demand estimates provided in Potato News Bulletin – 82 reports sent out to approximately 200 addresses on a contact list.

- Current temperature, humidity, rain, wind, and soil temperature values updated online hourly. Forty-six fusarium head blight maps provided daily online postings from mid-June through July. Weekly relative feed value of forage maps posted throughout June (5 maps). In 2008 there were more than 3,800 hits (does not include links) to the main weather page or bookmarks to specific areas.

Technical programs at industry workshops: Ag Days, Potato Production Days, Manitoba-North Dakota Zero Tillage Workshop, Direct Farm Marketing Conference and commodity group workshops (for example pulse, corn, forage, buckwheat, canola, sunflower, honeybee, forage seed, flax and organics).

- Staff presented at various industry workshops. Topics targeted and number of workshops are as follows:
    - Five field crop pathology
    - Three ag-met
    - Twenty horticulture entomology
    - Six horticulture pathology
    - Five horticulture agronomy
    - Six horticulture business development
    - Five greenhouse business development
    - Nineteen potato pest
    - Fifteen weeds
    - Twenty-five field crop entomology
    - Five crop nutrition
    - Five irrigation
    - Two regulations
    - Two minor use
    - Twelve potato, with two posters made and presented
    - Eighteen organic
    - Ten fruits
    - Three forage seed
    - Nineteen honey bees
    - Two leaf-cutting bees
    - Nine forages
    - Ten oilseed
    - Thirty pulses
    - Seven feed grains

- Short-term measurable outcomes are difficult to attain from this type of extension programming. It does provide information to producers and agri-business on current production challenges and solutions, as well as reinforces basic production recommendations. In addition, it demonstrates and highlights to new/existing producers the resources and expertise available within MAFRI to aid in their production decisions.

Provide weather and climate information to monitor, assess and project crop variety adaptation, crop diseases, weed and insect problems, crop yields and quality, as well as other factors.

- In 2008 the maps and other ag-met products that were generated included:
  - Fusarium head blight risk forecasts from June 16 to July 31.
  - Automated weather reports showing current conditions (tabular and graph format), on the hour seven days a week.
  - Manitoba Potato News (tabular), daily through growing season.
  - Crop Weather Report (tabular), with Weekly Manitoba Crop Report.
  - Rainfall and heat units (total and percent of normal), relative feed values, periodically.
  - Climate maps to show long-term average conditions.
  - Growing season weather and climate maps published in Yield Manitoba.
  - Timely information provided to producers and agri-business allowing informed production decisions based on economic and environmental sustainability.

Timely updates to websites and distribution, by e-mail and fax, of current potato crop, potato pest, and agro-meteorological information to support the Manitoba potato industry.

- There were 17 updates to Crop Stats Section, 58 updates to water demand section and eight updates to the "What's New" sections of the Manitoba Potato News Website. There were 22 updates to the late blight forecast section, ten updates to the Aphid Report Section, five updates to the Other Potato Disease section and five updates to the Other Potato Insects section.

A leadership role in the Manitoba Agronomists Conference (MAC) that hosted more than 300 industry and government crop advisors.

- The 2008 MAC reached an unprecedented 300 participants, selling out to capacity in Winnipeg, serving an additional 15 clients through a remote video feed to Dauphin, and accommodating an additional 100 through an inaugural web broadcast.

- The Crops KC was instrumental in the planning and delivery of this event, including presentations by five of its experts: Andy Nadler – Agro-meteorologist, Bruce Brolley – Manager of Industry Focus, Pam de Rocquigny – Business Development Specialist (BDS) – Feed Grains, Anastasia Kubinec – BDS - Oilseeds, and Bruce Murray – Farm Production Extension (FPE) - Weed Specialist. John Heard, FPE – Crop Nutrition continues to serve as the MAFRI co-chair of the MAC.

Objective 2:

To provide co-ordinated program development in crop production and pest management.

Field crop diagnostic schools providing field scouting training to 400 agronomists and farmers.

- A total of 481 participants (agronomists, producers, staff and students) attended the Crop Diagnostic School.

Diagnosis of more than 1,000 crop samples for plant diseases, herbicide injury and insect damage.

- Diagnosis of:
  - Plant disease, 499
  - Insect injury, 60
  - Herbicide injury, 97
  - Abiotic causes, 137
  - Honey and Leaf-cutting bee disease reports, 430.

- Identification of 22 insects and 122 weeds.

- In total there were 937 unique inquiries.

Inspection of approximately 4,500 honey bee colonies and diagnosis on about 300 honeybee samples for diseases.

- We have successfully inspected 4,552 bee colonies and tested approximately 300 honeybee samples for diseases.

- Timely information was provided to producers and agri-business, allowing informed production decisions based on economic and environmental sustainability.

Inspection of approximately 88 leaf-cutting bee operations and diagnosis on about 130 samples for diseases.

- We successfully inspected 88 leafcutting bee operations and tested approximately 130 samples for diseases.

Organized and conducted potato field days and agronomy meetings attended by 50 agronomists and potato producers.

- Potato field days and agronomy meetings were held on three occasions at three locations and each meeting was attended by approximately 60 agronomists and potato producers.

Development of a number of greenhouse production systems to offset the need for fresh vegetables in northern communities.

- Funding has been secured for the construction of seasonal green houses to be located in the communities of Leaf Rapids, Lynn Lake and Wabowden. The greenhouses in Wabowden and Leaf Rapids are operational and have provided starter seedlings to support the northern garden initiative. Wabowden has a vision to supply fresh vegetables year round to northern communities but has not as of yet reached that level of production. A partnership between the Misiwastipik Cree Nation, the Jewish National Fund and the Province of Manitoba is in the process of establishing a commercial greenhouse in the community of Grand Rapids. This project is seeking capital funding and the ultimate aim is to grow and supply fresh vegetables to northern communities on a commercial basis. Another component of the project is to incorporate a training facility into the operation to train northern greenhouse technicians from across Canada's north.

A 35 percent increase in the number of northern gardens established in isolated communities to promote healthy eating.

- It is estimated that through the efforts of the Northern Healthy Food Initiative (NHFI), Northern Association of Community Councils, Four Arrows Health Region, Indian and Northern Affairs Canada, and the Frontier School Division, in excess of 400 northern gardens have been established in designated communities. When the NHFI was established in 2005 there were fewer than 35 gardens being tended in the targeted communities. New projects and resources have been added to the gardening initiatives and as a result the number of communities has been expanding. The 35 percent target has been exceeded and the forecast is that we will see steady growth of garden numbers limited only by the resources available to the communities in the form of seed, seedlings, and tools.

Objective 3:

To facilitate and support the development of value-added agri-food processing in Manitoba.

Recommendations and support to producers regarding the management of crop residues and support in developing economic opportunities for utilizing cereal and flax straw.

- Other than providing traditional residue management recommendations based on inquiry and permits with supporting information, no new economic opportunities have been developed as this project is in the research stage. Opportunities are being investigated, but current promotion of these new practices is premature.

Maintenance of supply of high quality product to the three frozen potato processing facilities and one chipping potato processing facility.

- MAFRI staff had interaction throughout the year with potato producers, agronomists and industry personnel to extend information related to producing high quality processing potatoes. Interaction was in the form of recommendations, publications and presentations. The actual numbers for these recommendations, publications and presentations are included in Objective 1 above.

Expansion of the irrigated land base in Manitoba by 5,000 acres annually through the Irrigation Development Program.

- There were 4,996 acres irrigated through the Irrigation Development Program.

Provincial and Western Canadian strategies in agriculture-related areas such as ethanol, bio-diesel, agri-fibre, functional foods and nutraceuticals.

The projected performance measures for 2008/09 in Agro-Woodlot are:

- *Eighty woodlot management plans completed with eco-tourism encouraged.*
- *Forty harvest operating plans completed.*
- *Twenty-five woodlot harvests completed and monitored.*
- *One willow biomass plantation established for agri-energy.*
- *Eight micro-forestry skills training workshops delivered.*
- *Four Wealth in Woodlots presentations.*
- *Two events or convention displays at Ag Days & Conservation Districts.*
- *Ten newspaper articles published in rural papers.*

The actual results for 2008/09 in Agro-Woodlot are:

- Twenty-eight woodlot management plans completed – this measure was reduced due to delays in funding and transitioning staff.
- Sixteen harvest operating plans completed – this measure was reduced due to significant decline in forestry markets.
- Eleven woodlot harvests completed and monitored – including five logging Best Management Practices projects plus eight salvage logging projects.
- Four willow biomass plots.
- Nine micro-forestry skills training workshops delivered – trained 100 participants in 14 days.
- Four Wealth in Woodlots presentations.
- Two display events – Ag Days and Conservation Districts.
- Over 16 newspaper articles published in rural papers.

Organic production increased by 10+ percent over the year with production of organic flax, wheat and oats seeing the largest expansion.

- The acres of organic production have increased from 85,000 to 94,000 acres, at 10.6 percent annual increase.

- The production of wheat, oats and flax experienced the largest increase in acres.

Establishment of several on-farm, regional and provincial, biodiesel crushing facilities by individuals, co-operatives and corporations.

- The Oilseed Specialist has been working with the Agri-Energy Specialist to monitor the progress and challenges facing the six biodiesel projects in Manitoba that are at or close to completion. Information has been communicated to the Manitoba Canola Growers and other groups with interest in the progress of the industry in Manitoba.

Expanded fruit crop industry activity, such as a number of new commercialized food products, expanded domestic consumption of local fruit crops, expanded export market and further development of the Prairie Fruit Growers Association (PFGA) and the Canadian Prairie Fruit Federation (CPFF).

- Administered the development of saskatoon functional food products for commercialization (saskatoon dairy products).

- Acted as advisor to the PFGA and CPFF. Project leader for the PFGA on the Manitoba Fruit Industry On-Farm Food Safety Pilot Program, Seed Propagated Day-neutral Strawberry Evaluation Nursery Demonstration and Manitoba New Fruit Crop Diversification Study. Summarized and documented past fruit crop research projects from Alberta, Saskatchewan, and Manitoba for CPFF.

- Promoted domestic fruit consumption by improving fruit growers marketing skills via the Direct Farm Marketing Conference and distributing the PFGA U-Pick brochure to all GO offices.

- Promoted export development of seabuckthorn via *Seabuckthorn Harvester Development Project.* Assisted with this project as an advisor with Prairie Agricultural Machinery Institute and Manitoba Seabuckthorn Growers Association. Promoted seabuckthorn production at Seabuckthorn Harvesting Demo Field Day.

- Promoted export development of saskatoons by developing and distributing the Manitoba Saskatoon Industry Feasibility Study and Business Plan, and Model Business Plan: Saskatoon Berry Processing in Manitoba.

Objective 4:

To develop and deliver programming in support of innovation in the agri-food sector.

Technical reviews of proposals to the Agri-Food Research and Development Initiative, Agricultural Sustainability Initiative, Manitoba Rural Adaptation Council and the Sustainable Development Innovations Fund.

- Crops KC staff completed three Agri-Food Research and Development Initiatives project, and one Agricultural Sustainability Initiative project. The staff also reviewed proposals for 15 Manitoba Rural Adaptation Councils, two Sustainable Development Initiative Funds, and one Growing Forward Technical review.

Additional Results:

Administrative actions under The Fruit and Vegetable Sales Act, The Noxious Weeds Act, The Pesticide and Fertilizers Control Act, The Plant Pests and Diseases Act (Bacterial Ring Rot Regulation), The Bee Act, and The Organic Products Act.

- The Pesticides and Fertilizers Licence Regulation, under *The Pesticides and Fertilizers Control Act*, was amended to include pepper sprays due to increasing criminal misuse of such products. The new legislation came into force January 1, 2009, requiring all retail businesses that sell pepper sprays to be licensed and comply with licence conditions. The process included consultation with the Winnipeg Police Service, as well as with businesses that sell pepper sprays. Factsheets, web pages, advertisements, and letters paved the way for proclamation. MAFRI continues to work with both groups to ensure compliance.

Provision of daily Crop Residue Burning Authorizations (August 1 to November 15) in accordance with the Crop Residue Burning Regulation (77/93) under The Environment Act along with recommendations and support to producers regarding the management of crop residues.

- Daily crop residue burning authorizations were issued based on the forecasted weather parameters for each day. The crop residue burning hotline at 1-800-265-1233 received a total of 4,042 calls in 2008.

- To allow safe burning of individual fields, a total of 86 authorizations and 562 burning permits were issued to producers in 2008.

- Staff responded to several hundred inquiries from both producers and the public. There was a wide range of questions, the majority being related to regulation interpretation, permits, recommended burning practices and general information.

- Producers were able to make crop residue management decisions based on economic and environmental considerations. Health risks to both urban and rural populations were mitigated by this program.

- Permits and allowable burn days are based on environmental conditions with the goal of limiting human exposure to airborne particulates and allowing safe highway travel.

- Note that the program is only effective if accompanied by appropriate enforcement.

3 (c) Crop Industry

Expenditures by Sub-Appropriation	Actual 2008/2009 $(000s)	Estimate 2008/2009 FTEs	Estimate 2008/2009 $(000s)	Variance Over/(Under) $(000s)	Expl. No.
(1) Salaries and Employee Benefits	2,430	33.58	2,342	88	
(2) Other Expenditures	799		677	122	
Total Sub-Appropriation	**3,229**	**33.58**	**3,019**	**210**	

Appropriation 3 (d) – Agri-Environment

The Agri-Environment Knowledge Centre delivers programming that supports the development of Manitoba's agri-food and rural sectors while protecting agri-environmental resources. Currently, the Agri-Environment Knowledge Centre has two main priorities. These involve the establishment of the Knowledge Centre as the point of contact in government for leadership, policy development and advice on agri-environmental matters, and to represent Manitoba in national and international discussions. The Agri-Environment Knowledge Centre's second priority is to administer Manitoba's environment programming and commitments under Growing Forward, and to propose and develop subsequent federal/provincial agri-environment programs.

The expected results, as planned during the 2008/09 estimates process, are displayed below in italics followed by bulleted actual results.

Objective 1:

To enhance the development, diversification, sustainability and productive capabilities of Manitoba's producers and processors by providing technical and specialized services addressing environmental issues.

Increased financial and technical assistance to producers to mitigate the risk of nutrient transfer to water through enhanced nutrient management, regulation and extension.

- Supported other departments in the implementation of relatively new regulatory requirements by providing advice to colleagues and by extending information to producers and agronomists.
- Led the delivery of a series of workshops for producers regarding precision agriculture and variable-rate fertilizer application, conveying principles and explaining techniques.
- Co-delivered soil fertility workshops for producers and agronomists with Crops Knowledge Centre (KC) and Growing Opportunities (GO) Team staff.
- Extended manure nutrient management principles and economic valuation techniques to dairy producers at major annual events.

Development of agri-environmental policies in partnership with other agencies that benefit producers and protect the environment.

- Staff worked closely with the Policy Analysis KC providing advice on all agri-environment policy issues.
- Staff continues to lead policy development in the area of ecological goods and services (EG&S), in order for the area to deliver environmental services to its maximum potential.
- The Agri-Environment KC liaises with other provincial departments such as: Manitoba Water Stewardship (including the Manitoba Habitat Heritage Corporation and the Conservation Districts program), Manitoba Conservation, Manitoba Science, Technology, Energy and Mines, and Manitoba Intergovernmental Affairs. With this dialogue, MAFRI is able to follow programming and activities of other departments of the provincial government, and provide relevant agri-environment information for the development of policy.

Increased adoption of sustainable agricultural practices across Manitoba that reduces economic and environmental risk.

- MAFRI GO teams, supported by Agri-Environment KC staff, delivered 155 individual environmental farm plan (EFP) workshops. March 31, 2008 saw the conclusion of the Environment Chapter of the Agricultural Policy Framework and during the term of this agreement 876 individual EFP workshops were delivered. The EFP workshops consisted of a first workshop in which producers identified environmental risks and opportunities (440 delivered), and a second workshop in which producers developed an environmental action plan (436 delivered).
- This fiscal year, 112 environmental farm plans were completed bringing to a total of 6,940 producers that have participated in the individual EFP workshops, and 1,148 producers in the group-based farm plans. Since the program inception in 2005/06, a total of 5,611 EFP workbooks have been reviewed.

Statements of Completion have been issued for 86 percent of the producers who attended the workshops.

- Since 2005/06, over 8.8 million acres have been assessed by producers participating in the EFP process. Manitoba's farmland base is comprised of 18.7 million acres.
- The Canada-Manitoba Farm Stewardship Program (CMFSP) yielded the following results for the agreement:
  - A total of 8,066 projects completed for a total value of a $42.1 million investment for on-farm practices.
- Based on the number of applications approved, the top five categories for the agreement included:
  - Improved cropping systems
  - Product and waste management
  - Wintering site management
  - Improved manure storage and handling
  - Nutrient management planning
- Based on the total payments disbursed, the top five categories for the agreement included:
  - Improved cropping systems
  - Product and waste management
  - Wintering site management
  - Improved manure storage and handling
  - Relocation of Livestock Confinement and Horticultural Facilities

Accelerated expansion of agricultural lands with detailed soil inventory, along with associated maps and databases in digital and hard copy formats.

- In 2008/09, field mapping and soil characterization activities were continued in the Rural Municipality (RM) of Elton at a scale of 1:20,000. Approximately two sections were surveyed at 1:20,000 in the RM of Elton over the field season.
- The soil map and report was completed for the RM of Springfield at a detailed scale. Field correlation, editing, digitizing and final map production will continue for the RM of De Salaberry.
- The soil maps for the RMs of Tache and Ritchot are completed and the final report is in progress. The program of soil correlation and systematic soil sampling for a range of chemical and physical analyses includes soil moisture properties, soil texture and soil salinity. This ongoing program is being carried out in the RMs of Elton, Ritchot, Tache and De Salaberry.
- Soil survey was completed in the RM of Killarney-Turtle Mountain. Soil surveying continued in the RMs of Blanshard and Hamiota.
- The laboratory staff processed and analyzed approximately 1,100 soil samples for various soil chemical and physical properties including calcium carbonate, particle size, organic carbon, pH, electrical conductivity, and field moisture. Field and laboratory equipment was purchased to support the program and facilitate field characterization of soils.

Assessment of the costs and benefits of programs and policy options related to Ecological Goods and Services (for example, watershed management, climate change, biodiversity, nutrient management, etc).

- Completion of a study on the estimation of the Ecological Goods and Services (EG&S) program uptake, and the nature of costs and benefits for agro-Manitoba (September 2008). The main objectives of this project were: to determine the nature and extent of EG&S qualifying lands throughout Manitoba, to describe the potential environmental and other benefits from an EG&S program and the main environmental practices involved, and to recommend an approach for staging the introduction of an EG&S program in Agro-Manitoba based on cost/benefit parameters.
- Consultation of stakeholders to gain understanding of what environmental practices are already in place in Manitoba and to gather their opinions and perspective for the design of an EG&S program.
- Development of a cost/benefit analysis model to quantify several different scenarios based on payment type, contract length, adoption rate and benefit discounting scenario. The study suggests that a blanket EG&S program covering all of agro-Manitoba would cost several hundred million dollars per year, depending on uptake and payment levels.

Development and delivery of extension programming to convey issues and opportunities related to climate change mitigation and adaptation.

- Hiring and training of a climate change extension specialist. Communication material and documents are being produced to educate extension specialists and stakeholders.
- Launch of the MAFRI climate change website: www.gov.mb.ca/agriculture/soilwater/climate/index.html
- Many presentations to different stakeholders and agriculture organizations.
- Review and update of two climate-change related guides in collaboration with Climate Change Connection: A Guide to Creating Climate-Friendly Farms in Manitoba - Crop Edition, and A Guide to Creating Climate-Friendly Farms in Manitoba - Livestock Edition. (http://www.climatechangeconnection.org/Resources/ClimateChangeConnectionpublications.htm)

Development and implementation of climate change adaptation and mitigation program to producers to support them in meeting the provincial commitment to Kyoto.

- Development of the Manitoba Sustainable Agriculture Practices Program (MSAPP). The focus of this program is to reduce agriculture greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by 2012 to assist in meeting Manitoba's 'Beyond Kyoto" targets. The program will assist the province in achieving its climate change objectives and in its transition to a low carbon and green economy.
- Proposal of a three-pronged approach to help meet Manitoba's climate change objectives regarding agriculture: a Beneficial Management Practices (BMPs) component targeted to reduce GHG emissions in the agriculture sector by 2012, a research component to build capacity for enhanced mitigation, sequestration and adaptation before and beyond 2012 and finally, extension activities to support and assist agriculture stakeholders in achieving these objectives.
- Investigation of the BMPs in order to select the most efficient ones for Manitoba: held two workshops with stakeholders and academia (August 2008 and January 2009), and two literature reviews.
- Funding of research projects to achieve long-term solutions to climate change mitigation and adaptation in Manitoba's agricultural sector and to develop sustainable rural economies. This proposed research and development component of MSAPP will provide capacity for academia, governments and non-governmental organizations to answer these and other important questions related to Manitoba's medium- and long-term climate change goals. For the 2008/09 period, seventeen projects were funded.
- Participation, at a cost of $30 million, in the Natural Resource Canada's Regional Adaptation Collaboratives (RACs) program, a prairie regional collaboration with the Provinces of Saskatchewan and Alberta. The goal of the RACs program is to catalyze co-ordinated and sustained action to reduce vulnerability to a changing climate by advancing adaptation planning and decision-making.

Expansion of livestock, potato and other agricultural industries in a sustainable and environmentally responsible manner.

- Contributed to the soil/landscape and manure management portions of Technical Review Committee reports for proposed livestock operations.
- Collected detailed soil survey data that supports site-specific assessments of soil suitability for manure application and crop production.

Technical information packages to equip producers to make better use of livestock manure as a source of nutrients.

- Continued to lead extension of a comprehensive approach to manure nutrient management that includes nitrogen (N) and phosphorous-based components.
- Completed and published the updated Manure Application Rate Calculator.
- Published a new fact sheet in the Manure Management Facts series entitled "Budgeting for Phosphorus – How Efficient is Your Farm?"
- Completed the revision and publishing of three fact sheets in the Manure Management Facts series addressing manure nutrients and their behaviour in soil, application rate calculations and the integration of manure into tillage systems and crop rotations.
- Completed a collaborative/co-operative project with the Manitoba Egg Producers that generated a database of manure test data that enables producers and agronomists to manage laying hen manure more effectively and efficiently. Estimates of manure production rates were refined along with recommendations for manure storage structure volumes.

- Co-delivered soil fertility lessons at the two-week Crop Diagnostic School with the University of Manitoba and Crop Knowledge Centre. Topics included recommendations on how to refine techniques in nitrogen application, particularly in cases of when manure is used to fertilize crops and there is uncertainty as to the nitrogen content and availability.
- Supported projects funded by the Agriculture Sustainability Initiative and the Livestock Stewardship Initiative to address local manure nutrient management concerns and opportunities.

Support to producers in managing and implementing environmental farming practices that support society's goals in sustainability.

- Provision of composting technical support.
- Provision of technical assistance in support of the CMFSP and BMP's.

Provision of technical support to producers through workshops and training sessions and extension materials on the formulation of Beneficial Management Practices (BMP's).

- Provision of technical support in support of the CMFSP and BMP's.

3 (d) Agri-Environment

Expenditures by Sub-Appropriation	Actual 2008/2009 $(000s)	Estimate 2008/2009 FTEs	Estimate 2008/2009 $(000s)	Variance Over/(Under) $(000s)	Expl. No.
(1) Salaries and Employee Benefits	1,597	31.54	2,022	(425)	1
(2) Other Expenditures	862		704	158	
(3) Grant Assistance - Nutrient and Manure Management	-		2,288	(2,288)	2
Total Sub-Appropriation	**2,459**	**31.54**	**5,014**	**(2,556)**	

1. *The under-expenditure in Agri-Environment salaries and employee benefits is mainly due to a higher than anticipated vacancy rate in the Nutrient and Manure Management and the Soil Survey programs.*
2. *The variance is primarily the result of a delay in finalizing Nutrient and Manure Management program details. Program implementation is expected to occur in 2009/10.*

Appropriation 3 (e) – Land Use

The core functions of the Land Use Planning Knowledge Centre (LUP KC) have significant implications for all aspects of agricultural production, diversification and value-added opportunities. This is to ensure that a viable agricultural land base exists for present and future food production and diversification opportunities through sustainable land use planning and agricultural Crown land regulation and management. These core functions are complex, given the need and desire for significant interdepartmental co-operation and consensus building in sustainable land use planning (private and Crown land), land management and allocation (Crown land), as well as the application of multiple resource use principles in rangeland management planning (private and Crown land). By applying the principles of sustainable planning in protecting agricultural interests, the LUP KC can facilitate economic development opportunities in rural Manitoba within the context of sustainability.

The LUP KC provides leadership within Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives (MAFRI) in representing agricultural interests in the development and implementation of the provincial and municipal land use planning processes, and the development and enforcement of regulations, policies, and procedures to ensure equitable allocation and management of agricultural Crown lands. Through consistent interaction with provincial departments, municipalities, planning districts, and agri-industry, the LUP KC provides leadership and expertise in support of sustainable agricultural practices based on the principle of multiple resource use in Manitoba.

The expected results, as planned during the 2008/09 estimates process, are displayed below in italics followed by bulleted actual results.

Objective 1:

To protect agricultural land and farm operations from encroachment ensuring a viable agricultural land base for present and future food production, and agricultural diversification through sustainable land use planning as well as consistent management of agricultural Crown lands.

Communication to producers and provincial departments regarding land use planning and policy issues, and the implications of land use regulations on agricultural operations.

- Many meetings were held throughout the year with the department of Intergovernmental Affairs on land use planning and policy issues specific to agriculture, and written response was provided on the 884 subdivisions and other land use proposals pursuant to *The Planning Act*.

- Two public meetings were held for producers in the Rural Municipality (RM) of Brokenhead regarding land use planning issues.

- A presentation was given at a Keystone Agricultural Producers (KAP) District meeting in November 2008.

- Many producers were in direct contact with Land Use Specialists regarding subdivisions and development plan issues across the province.

- Continued communication with Manitoba Pork Council (MPC), Manitoba Cattle Producers Association (MCPA), and KAP throughout the year.

Management and administrative support of approximately 2,550 long-term forage leases and permits involving 1.6 million acres, and 83 cropping leases involving 11,000 acres generating over $1.4 million in revenue.

- Management of approximately 2,500 long-term forage leases and permits involving approximately 1.6 million acres, and 85 cropping leases involving approximately 12,000 acres generating approximately $1.4 million in revenue. Total carrying capacity of Crown lands under lease and permits as at March 31, 2009 was 678,890 annual unit months (AUM). This capacity provides the animal grazing requirement of approximately 56,574 beef cows.

- Management and distribution of approximately $1.5 million in municipal tax dollars (grants-in-lieu held in trust).

- Provided input, recommendations, and approval on 304 parcels advertised for allocation; scored and approved 489 applications for lease or permit, which resulted in 255 allocations; reviewed and approved eight parcels for cropping lease tender (six individual and two units); provided input, recommendations and approval for 52 in-family transfers and 30 unit transfers; reviewed and approved six cancellations for non-performance of covenant and ten cancellations for non-payment; and reviewed and approved 104 leases for renewal.

- Managed 1,030 parcels of land under administrative agreement with seven RMs involving 164,800 acres.

- Continued support to the Crown Lands and Property Agency (CLPA) to co-operatively deliver the Agricultural Crown Lands (ACL) Program.

- Creation and participation on the Crown Lands Horizontal Team dedicated to: management, field delivery, range management, and land use planning to deliver the ACL program, develop extension activities to increase carrying capacity on Crown lands and provide advice on ACL policy, procedures and efficient delivery of field services.

- Provided administrative and management support to the Agricultural Crown Lands Appeal Board for seven hearings, which included two based on the allocation of Crown land, one based on a lease cancellation for non-performance and four based on transfer denials.

Along with the Prairie Farm Rehabilitation Administration (PFRA), provision of grazing on 23 community pastures involving 395,506 acres during the summer grazing season.

- The provision of grazing on 23 PFRA community pastures involving 395,506 acres continued during the summer grazing season and is significant in providing pasture and livestock management for livestock primarily from grain farms.

Improved productivity on agricultural Crown lands through extension of forage and rangelands management practices to producers.

- Continued work on a program which encourages recovery of grasslands from encroaching woody vegetation.

- Participated in activities focused on range management and multi-resource use (for example, brush management, beaver management and grazing management). Special consideration to multi-resource management activities which will enhance principles and practices of multiple resource use, both on private and Crown land. Science and research from ongoing projects will be beneficial in providing support for changes in range management, complimentary use and productivity. Current ongoing projects include the Garland Project, the Native Pasture Improvement Project, and the Manitoba Forage Benchmarking Project.

A triennial survey of pasture rates that provides the basis for the establishment of the rental rate charged by government for agricultural Crown lands.

- The Crown Lands Stakeholders Consultation Committee began meeting in the fall of 2008 to work towards the goal of establishing the rental rate for agricultural Crown lands for the triennial period of 2010–2012. The required data, to be analyzed in the summer of 2009, is gathered by way of survey which was distributed at the end of March 2009 to various producers across the province of Manitoba.

In conjunction with Manitoba Infrastructure and Transportation and CLPA, achieve timely service for clients, seamless program delivery, a complete and accurate Crown Land Registry and mutually acceptable policy, legislation and business program.

- Worked closely with the CLPA to co-ordinate the roles of Crown land management with respective administrative functions related to program delivery for 1.6 million acres of agricultural Crown lands in Manitoba.

- Development of policies in consultation with the Agricultural Crown Lands Appeal Board, the Stakeholders Consultation Committee and, with required input from departmental staff, directly involved in the delivery of the agricultural Crown lands program.

- As part of the transition to clearly define the roles of MAFRI and CLPA in the delivery of the ACL Program, MAFRI continues to work towards the drafting of a Memorandum of Understanding between the two departments as well as a Service Agreement between CLPA and the LUP KC. These documents will be the basis for supporting the directional and collective mandates respective of the administrative (CLPA) and management (MAFRI) activities for the agricultural leasing program in Manitoba.

Objective 2:

To support sustainable land use planning and the management of Manitoba's agricultural land base consistent with provincial legislation, regulation and policies including *The Planning Act*, Provincial Land Use Policies, Farm Practice Guidelines, Livestock Manure and Mortalities Management Regulations and *The Crown Lands Act*.

Support to municipalities in the preparation of their developmental plan and zoning bylaw as required under The Planning Act. All development plans must contain a livestock operation policy for the municipality or planning district. More than 100 development plans and livestock operation policies plus 200 zoning bylaws are anticipated.

- There are 93 Planning Authorities: 44 Planning Districts and 49 RMs that are outside of Planning Districts. As of March 2009, 28 planning authorities have adopted a livestock operations policy in as part of their development plans consistent with requirements under *The Planning Act*. Further, there are 38 planning authorities with livestock operations in a draft format, which MAFRI has also reviewed and provided comment. This leaves an expectation of 27 more over the coming fiscal year.

- Of the 200 zoning by-laws that are anticipated, staff have reviewed and provided recommendations on approximately 60.

Input and recommendations on a range of land use-related issues via 700 assessment of subdivisions, written proposals and technical advice on 50 proposals filed pursuant to The Environment Act and 100 or more Land Use Proposals under The Planning Act.

- Provided input and recommendations on a range of agricultural land use issues via 763 subdivisions, plus written proposals and technical advice on 87 proposals under *The Environment Act* and 121 land use proposals under *The Planning Act*.

- Review and comments were provided on eight proposals for highway development.

Representation of the interests of Provincial Land Use Policy #2 to Municipal Councils, Planning District Boards and the public.

- Along with attendance at meetings as listed in the next item, three presentations on Land Use Planning for Agriculture and Planning for Livestock were also given by Land Use Specialists at the joint Manitoba Planning Conference – Canadian Institute for Planners National Conference and the Manitoba Society of Soil Science Annual General Meeting.

Attendance at 40 Public Hearings (followed by additional meetings with the District or RM Council), ten Municipal Board Hearings, and 20-25 Livestock Conditional Use Hearings.

- LUP KC staff attended approximately 30 meetings and public hearings with municipal councils and planning district boards. There were eight Municipal Board hearings in which staff participated and provided evidence.

- The Technical Review Committee component, along with livestock operation conditional use hearings realigned under the umbrella of the Livestock Knowledge Centre for the 2008/09 fiscal.

Participate with Conservation, Water Stewardship and other government groups and agencies represented in Crown land planning and classification of Crown lands for multi-resource utilization.

- Valid agricultural interests were protected and/or maintained in the resolution of issues as they arose.

- Continued review of land use coding on the western side of the province, specifically with regard to the Louisiana Pacific licensing area to assist in providing a maximized wood harvest.

- Completion of the Bison Project of coding land for forestry interest in the North Interlake while maintaining the agricultural use of these lands.

- Special consideration to management of Crown land to continually ensure one resource does not compromise another by applying the principles of multi-resource use and development. The LUP KC facilitates economic development opportunities in rural Manitoba within the context of environmental sustainability.

- Continued commitment working towards the finalization of the Garland Report which was initiated in 1997 and will be completed in the 2009/10 fiscal year. This report will provide valuable data to direct future extension activities relative to grazing management strategies for harvested areas and put forth policy recommendations to the province for co-management of Crown lands in areas such as forestry grazing).

- Continued commitment working towards the culmination of productivity information and data in relation to the Forage Benchmarking Project, which was initiated in 2004. It is anticipated that a summary report, based on the data gathered throughout the term of this project, will provide support for innovative and sustainable pasture management practices beginning in the 2009/10 fiscal. This information will also be instrumental in supporting and aiding in the classification of Crown lands.

A technical review process and terms of reference that addresses current needs, and supports the review of the 25 new and expanding livestock operations.

- The LUP KC participated on the Technical Review Clean Environment Commission Recommendation Implementation Committee. There were approximately five meetings within the fiscal year.

Four training sessions to provide an understanding of the technical review process within MAFRI, Conservation, Intergovernmental Affairs and Water Stewardship.

- It is anticipated that this training will be achieved over the next fiscal year in conjunction with changes to the technical review process.

Additional Results:

- LUP KC staff continued to work with Intergovernmental Affairs to rewrite the Provincial Land Use Policies. Approximately eight meetings were held in regard to this over the fiscal year. The new provincial Land Use Policies have gone out for consultation and are expected to be adopted in April 2010.

- The subdivision database and tracking system was brought on-line. It was developed in 2007/08 to assist in promoting consistency in responses provided by various MAFRI Land Use Specialists and track the amount of agricultural land removed from production.

- Staff participated on the Sustainability Planning Horizontal Team to co-ordinate MAFRI's approach to planning for sustainable agricultural and rural development, and to improve communications regarding the role of the LUP KC in rural development.

- Staff played a significant role in planning the highly successful national Canadian Institute of Planners (CIP) Conference in Winnipeg for July 2008, with the goal of promoting the importance of land use planning for agriculture to local governments and planners. Attendance was just under 700 delegates. The KC has representation on the Manitoba Planning Conference Planning Committee for 2009.

- LUP KC staff developed and sponsored a one-day seminar "Planning for Agriculture and Food Network" to follow the CIP Conference in July 2008. The agenda for the day boasted international and national input on important agricultural land use planning issues. Over 30 people participated in person, and twenty-five individuals joined by webinar.

3 (e) Land Use

Expenditures by Sub-Appropriation	Actual 2008/2009 $(000s)	Estimate 2008/2009 FTEs	Estimate 2008/2009 $(000s)	Variance Over/(Under) $(000s)	Expl. No.
(1) Salaries and Employee Benefits	809	12.00	923	(114)	
(2) Other Expenditures	790		742	48	
Total Sub-Appropriation	**1,599**	**12.00**	**1,665**	**(66)**	

Appropriation 3 (f) – Agri-Food Innovation and Adaptation

Agri-Food Innovation and Adaptation (AFIA) Knowledge Centre develops and delivers the province's policies and programs with regard to science and innovation. The primary objective is to support growth and sustainability in the agri-food and rural sectors. AFIA provides leadership and co-ordination through financial support to institutions, organizations, businesses, and individuals engaged in the development of new knowledge and technology. The knowledge centre contributes leadership, policy and programming to the development of the bio-economy in Manitoba including functional foods, bio-energy and biomaterials. As well, AFIA staff is engaged directly in conducting applied field investigations into crop diversification and utilization on behalf of producer organizations. AFIA's Agri-Energy Office provides leadership and co-ordination of renewable energy programming pertaining to agriculture's ability to be both a supplier and consumer of non-fossil energy.

The expected results, as planned during the 2008/09 estimates process, are displayed below in italics followed by bulleted actual results.

Objective 1:

To develop and deliver the province's programs regarding science-based innovation in agri-food and rural development.

Expanded knowledge, particularly among rural Manitobans in support of increased value-added processing, farm diversification, sustainability, as well as food, fibre and energy production.

- Support in the evaluation of proposals to Agri-Food Research and Development Initiative (ARDI), of which 22 were awarded funding by the ARDI Council. A total of $1.8 million was awarded during the fiscal year. ARDI provided financial support to commodity groups, individuals, industry and institutions. The program focused on value-added processing, enhanced production and exporting of higher value products. In 2008/09, ARDI facilitated projects in the following eligible categories:
    - Commodities that are well-established and present additional growth or development opportunities.
    - Commodities that are new or alternative and present opportunities for development in Manitoba.
    - Bio-energy, biofibres, and biotechnology.
    - Sustainability of the resource base and the environment.
- The University of Manitoba grant of $868.3 enabled 133 projects in areas determined to be high priority by AFIA and other knowledge centres in the department.
- A grant to the Prairie Agricultural Machinery Institute (PAMI) of $332.5 was administered with oversight provided by AFIA.

Objective 2:

To deliver the province's program of applied investigations related to value-added crop and livestock diversification.

Multiple income streams for farmers as a result of markets for primary products in the bio-economy: ethanol, bio-diesel, fibre, and functional components.

- A total of 85 applied investigations supporting farm participation in the bio-economy were conducted by the following organizations with assistance from the department:
    - Parkland Crop Diversification Foundation (PCDF)
    - Westman Agricultural Diversification Organization (WADO)
    - Prairies East Sustainable Agriculture Initiative (PESAI)
    - Canada-Manitoba Crop Diversification Centre (CMCDC)
    - Manitoba Crop Variety Evaluation Team (MCVET)

Objective 3:

To achieve the province's goals regarding renewable energy from agricultural sources.

Multiple income streams for farmers as a result of markets for primary products in the bio-economy: ethanol, biodiesel, fibre, and functional components.

- Collection, interpretation and dissemination of agronomic, engineering, economic and environmental information in support of policy development, community projects and increasing technical competency of Manitoba's bio-energy sector.
- Staff worked with clients on ten proposals for ethanol and biodiesel plants.
- AFIA collaborated with Prairie Agricultural Machinery Institute (PAMI) to develop and demonstrate an ethanol-diesel-powered truck.
- The Agri-Energy Office supported activities of the Manitoba Biodiesel Board.
- Developed and participated in 25 meetings outlining opportunities in renewable energy for producers and communities.
- AFIA collaborated with the private sector to assess the feasibility of biomass energy as a replacement for coal.
- Projects were developed with individual entrepreneurs in the area of biomass energy and bio-products.
- A biodiesel demonstration program was conducted with ten producers. A video documenting producer response was produced.
- The Agri-Energy Office has, in co-operation with Science, Technology, Energy and Mines developed and delivered programs and information on biodiesel, wind power, ethanol, biomass, and methane from anaerobic digestion.
- A provincial strategy for bio-products was developed in collaboration with industry and other departments of government.
- An in-field densification system was designed and built in collaboration with PAMI.

Objective 4:

To develop priorities for the province's investment in innovation, in support of sustainable value-added agri-food and rural development.

Investment in innovation-based enterprises in rural Manitoba.

- Business investments continued to be made in functional food, plant breeding, renewable energy, food processing and other value-added businesses. These businesses were in part made possible by innovations generated through programming delivered by the department.

Establishment of functional food science and commercial capacity in Manitoba.

- Continued support of the collaborative activities of the Manitoba Agri-Health Research Network (MAHRN), both nationally and internationally, to support discovery and commercialization of functional foods.
- Provincial priorities were included on the national agenda through involvement with federal foresighting activities as well as the Flax Canada 2015 Phase II and Pulse Innovations Program.
- The $1.5 million Manitoba Functional Food Opportunities Project was completed in collaboration with private industry resulting in several products moving toward commercialization.
- Significant effort has been expended in developing the functional food sector including research projects and delivery of commercialization road map training for entrepreneurs.

Expanded knowledge, particularly among rural Manitobans, in support of increased value-added processing, farm diversification, sustainability, as well as food, fibre and energy production.

- Manitoba participated in the following multi-partner initiatives which placed the province in a leadership position in the bio-economy:
    - Potato Innovation Network

- Flax Canada 2015 Phase II
- Canola Product Research Fund
- Pulse Innovation Project
- Commercialization of biofibres for composite application
- Parkland BioFibre
- Parkland Industrial Hemp Growers Co-op

- Consultations were held with University of Manitoba Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences, and the Faculty of Human Ecology to establish priorities for research and development.

Objective 5:

To establish strategic partnerships among research providers including universities, colleges, non-government organizations, federal agencies and the private sector.

Maintain federal research capability in Manitoba.

- MAHRN was implemented to co-ordinate outreach activities of the Functional Food Cluster which consists of The Richardson Centre for Functional Foods and Nutraceuticals, Canadian Centre of Agri-Food Research in Health and Medicine, and the Food Development Centre.
- A research agreement was struck between Manitoba, the Manitoba Cattle Producers Association, and Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada to expand forage and beef research in the province.
- Support was continued for producer-led crop diversification centres, including the Canada-Manitoba Crop Diversification Centre, for which a new ten-year agreement was drafted.
- Staff continues to work with federal counterparts to develop the Grains Centre of Excellence proposal.

Objective 6:

To encourage the expansion of research capacity and innovation.

Maintenance of federal research capability in Manitoba.

- Staff continued to work with federal counterparts to develop the Grains Centre of Excellence proposal.

Value-added enterprises in biofuels, functional foods and other bio-economy enterprises.

- Work continued with the Jewish National Fund of Canada to develop projects based on Israeli technology.
- Collaboration was established with Assiniboine Community College in the establishment of their bio-economy program.
- Work continued to assist Parkland BioFibre in establishing a hemp processing plant in Dauphin.
- Private sector investments occurred in plant biotechnology and starch-based bioproducts.

3 (f) Agri-Food Innovation and Adaptation

Expenditures by Sub-Appropriation	Actual 2008/2009 $(000s)	Estimate 2008/2009 FTEs	Estimate 2008/2009 $(000s)	Variance Over/(Under) $(000s)	Expl. No.
(1) Salaries and Employee Benefits	1,231	18.90	1,433	(202)	
(2) Other Expenditures	292		269	23	
Total Sub-Appropriation	**1,523**	**18.90**	**1,702**	**(179)**	

Appropriation 3 (g) – Agri-Food Research and Development Initiative

Funding for this initiative is made available by federal and provincial governments for research and development projects under the Canada-Manitoba Agri-Food Research and Development Initiative Agreement (ARDI).

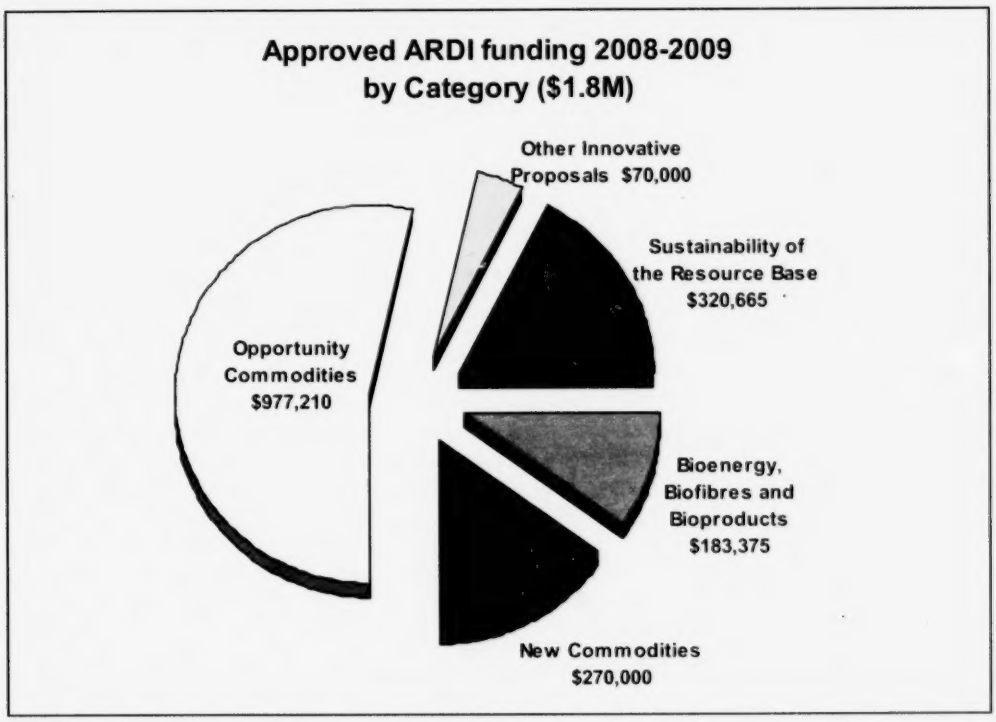
The expected results, as planned during the 2008/09 estimates process, are displayed below in italics followed by bulleted actual results.

Objective:

To provide financial support to partners on a project basis for research and development in support of the province's strategy to diversify and add value to its agriculture and food sectors.

Growth in Manitoba's agriculture and food sector as a result of products and innovations developed with ARDI funding.

- In 2008/09, ARDI facilitated many diverse projects in the following eligible categories:


Approved ARDI funding 2008-2009
by Category ($1.8M)
Other Innovative Proposals $70,000
Sustainability of the Resource Base $320,665
Opportunity Commodities $977,210
Bioenergy, Biofibres and Bioproducts $183,375
New Commodities $270,000

Added value from other initiatives such as research and development at the University of Manitoba, the Prairie Agricultural Machinery Institute, Sustainable Development Innovations Fund, Manitoba Agri-Ventures Initiative, the Rural Economic Development Initiative, and market development initiatives such as the Manitoba Pork Advantage and the Food Development Centre.

- Virtually all ARDI projects involved Manitoba research providers and collaboration with other funding agencies.

Investment in research and development by agri-business, associations, institutions, local organizations, and commodity groups.

- The Province of Manitoba expended $1.0 million under the Agri-Food Research and Development Initiative in 2008/09.
    - The ARDI Program Council approved 22 projects with financial commitments totaling over $1.8 million. These projects received an additional $1.3 million investment from producer organizations, corporations and others.
    - A contribution of $50.0 was also made to the Jewish National Fund of Canada to support research of mutual interest in the areas of water, conservation, irrigation, forest rejuvenation and agriculture.

Increased number of highly qualified personnel as a result of the training and education of graduate students through ARDI-funded projects.

- Twenty-eight post-secondary students were involved in ARDI projects in 2008/09.

A contribution to developing an overall climate of innovation in Manitoba.

- ARDI continued to be regarded as the primary provincial research and development foundation for agri-food and rural science and innovations.

3 (g) Agri-Food Research and Development Initiative

Expenditures by Sub-Appropriation	Actual 2008/2009 $(000s)	Estimate 2008/2009 FTEs	Estimate 2008/2009 $(000s)	Variance Over/(Under) $(000s)	Expl. No.
Grants/Transfer Payments	1,000	-	1,000	-	
Total Sub-Appropriation	**1,000**	-	**1,000**	**-**	

Appropriation 3 (h) – Grant to the University of Manitoba

MAFRI funding represents a significant proportion of total government and corporate contributions for the research activities of the Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences at the University of Manitoba. Various departments within the faculty received monetary grants to assist in their research activities.

The expected results, as planned during the 2008/09 estimates process, are displayed below in italics followed by bulleted actual results.

Objective 1:

To provide financial support to the University of Manitoba for conducting research projects aimed at increasing knowledge that can be applied to the priorities of Manitoba's agri-food and rural sectors.

Results of research in support of the department's strategic priority areas:

- *Farm profitability*
- *Green agriculture economy*
- *Environmental sustainability*
- *Rural economic development*
- *Health and wellness*

- The department allocation contributed to a total of 133 projects which directly supported the department's strategic priorities.

Funding from this grant is expected to serve as a valuable resource in assisting the Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences in attracting outside funding for research (in support of the department's priorities) from non-provincial government sources. In 2007/08, projects enabled by the grant achieved a leverage factor of 10:1. National and provincial producer commodity check-offs and industry organizations provided much of the external funding.

- In 2008/09 projects enabled by the grant achieved a leverage factor of 12:1.

3 (h) Grant to the University of Manitoba

Expenditures by Sub-Appropriation	Actual 2008/2009 $(000s)	Estimate 2008/2009 FTEs	Estimate 2008/2009 $(000s)	Variance Over/(Under) $(000s)	Expl. No.
Grants/Transfer Payments	868	-	868	-	
Total Sub-Appropriation	**868**	-	**868**	-	

Appropriation 3 (i) – Grant to the Prairie Agricultural Machinery Institute (PAMI)

The department provides financial support to the Prairie Agricultural Machinery Institute (PAMI) for conducting agricultural research, development, and testing of farm equipment and technology aimed at enhancing the productivity and income of Manitoba's agricultural producers. PAMI operates out of Portage la Prairie, Manitoba and Humboldt, Saskatchewan. Financial support of $332.5 is provided through an agreement between the Province of Manitoba and the Province of Saskatchewan. An additional $450.0 was provided to PAMI as a one time grant for a specific project to develop a mobile densification system for converting crop biomass into a more manageable form for use as an alternate energy source.

The expected results, as planned during the 2008/09 estimates process, are displayed below in italics followed by bulleted actual results.

Objective 1:

To provide financial support to PAMI for conducting agricultural research, development and testing of farm equipment and technologies aimed at enhancing the productivity and income of Manitoba's agricultural producers and processors.

PAMI applies technology as a tool for economic development through client-driven activities that support MAFRI's strategic routes and priorities under Growing Opportunities:

- *Farm Profitability*
- *Green Agriculture Economy*
- *Environmental Sustainability*
- *Rural Economic Development*
- *Health and Wellness*

- PAMI programming in 2008/09 again covered the spectrum of provincial priority areas with 53 agri-food research and development projects completed with a project value of $2.82 million.

Results from applied research in agricultural production, environmental technologies, renewable energy, farm safety and value-added processing.

- PAMI contributed to the development of a provincial bio-products strategy.

- PAMI designed and built an in-field crop residue densification unit for use in producing biomass energy products.

Technology transfer to assist producers and the industry to make changes to their operations.

- PAMI developed and delivered a farm biodiesel demonstration with ten agricultural producers across Manitoba.

- PAMI completed the design, development and demonstration of an ethanol-diesel-powered truck.

Objective 2:

This grant enables PAMI to leverage industry funding, with fee-for-service income contributing in excess of 70 percent of its operating budget.

PAMI applies technology as a tool for economic development through client-driven activities that support MAFRI's strategic routes and priorities under Growing Opportunities:

- *Farm Profitability*
- *Green Agriculture Economy*
- *Environmental Sustainability*

- *Rural Economic Development*
- *Health and Wellness*

- The grant enabled PAMI to leverage industry funding, with fee-for-service income contributing in excess of 70 percent of its operating budget.

Results from applied research in agricultural production, environmental technologies, renewable energy, farm safety and value-added processing.

- PAMI conducted 184 partnership-based activities producing results in the above areas, including 53 agri-food research and development projects completed with a project value of $2.82 million.

Technology transfer to assist producers and the industry to make changes to their operations.

- PAMI produced producer info sheets, research papers and upgraded their website. In addition, a beef economist and bio-energy specialist were added to the PAMI staff complement.

3 (i) Grant to the Prairie Agricultural Machinery Institute

Expenditures by Sub-Appropriation	Actual 2008/2009 $(000s)	Estimate 2008/2009 FTEs	Estimate 2008/2009 $(000s)	Variance Over/(Under) $(000s)	Expl. No.
Grants/Transfer Payments	783	-	333	450	1
Total Sub-Appropriation	**783**	**-**	**333**	**450**	

1. *The increase in 2008/09 costs for the Grant to the Prairie Agricultural Machinery Institute relates to one-time funding support for the purchase of a mobile biomass densifier.*

Appropriation 3 (j) – Agricultural Sustainability Initiative

The Agricultural Sustainability Initiative (ASI) funds activities in the following areas:

- Sustainable Crop Management
- Sustainable Forage/Livestock Management
- Integrated Pest Management

Also, funding is also available under the following five strategic themes added in 2006/07:

- Water Quality Related to Agriculture Issues
- Agri-Energy
- Biological Cropping Systems
- Northern Foods/New Production Systems
- Ecological Goods and Services/Climate Change.

The delivery of programming occurs through:

- local producer groups located throughout rural Manitoba
- provincial commodity and agricultural organizations
- three regional crop diversification centres:
    - Parkland Crop Diversification Foundation
    - Westman Agricultural Diversification Organization
    - Prairies East Sustainable Agriculture Initiative.

Objective 1:

To facilitate the adoption of effective resource management and environmentally sustainable practices to enhance the long-term sustainability and competitiveness of the agri-food sector.

Accelerated adoption of sustainable agriculture practices across Manitoba.

Continued emphasis on nutrient management projects, including an on-farm survey of phosphorus management.

Maintained/enhanced quality of agricultural lands.

Additional funds attracted from other sources as partnerships are formed to carry out program activities.

- The table shows that in 2008/09, 29 proponents (producers, conservation groups, and non-governmental organizations) conducted 38 demonstration and applied research projects, while MAFRI staff conducted six projects totalling approximately $833.36 in approved ASI contributions.

- Five sustainable forage and livestock management projects were conducted by four proponents totalling $45.48. The projects addressed issues relating to forage and livestock management, forage variety and feed testing, extending the grazing season, and conducting holistic management and grazing schools.

- Sustainable Crop Management projects included the demonstration of nitrogen ramp calibration strips and a national workshop on industrial hemp industry update.

- Two of the four projects under Integrated Pest Management included surveys, mapping, and monitoring of invasive weed species. The other two included re-cropping after grass seed production and an aphid monitoring project.

- Diversification centres located in Melita, Roblin, and Arborg conducted several different trials dealing with crop diversification opportunities as well as projects related to agri-energy. Funding for the centres was approximately $225.0.

- Communication of activities occurred through newsletters, radio interviews, news releases, articles, seminars, workshops, field days, fact sheets, guides, reports, and other extension materials.

Summary of 2008/09 ASI Priority Areas Projects and Proponents

Priority Area	Number of Proponent	Total Number of Projects	Direct Delivered Projects	Approved ASI Contribution	Actual $
(1) Sustainable Forage/Livestock Management	4	5	0	45,480.00	44,403.20
(2) Sustainable Crop Management	1	2	1	10,974.00	8,532.03
(3) Integrated Pest Management	3	4	1	57,633.00	58,603.39
(4) Contingency List	2	3	1	86,500.00	47,742.35
(5) Biological Cropping Systems	8	10	0	175,545.00	163,332.50
(6) Water Quality Related to Agricultural Issues	6	12	3	170,408.28	158,624.50
(7) Agri-Energy	0	0	0	0	0
(8) Northern Foods/New Production Systems	0	0	0	0	0
(9) Ecological Goods & Services/Climate Change	2	2	0	125,100.00	125,100.00
(10)Crop Diversification Centres	3	Several	0	225,000.00	218,081.50
Administration/ Communications				8,940.85	8,940.85
Totals	**29**	**38**	**6**	**905,581.13**	**833,360.19**

Objective 2:

To facilitate the conservation and enhancement of the natural soil, water and atmospheric resources that agriculture uses and shares by ensuring the environmental sustainability of the practices employed in the agri-food sector.

Accelerated adoption of sustainable agriculture practices across Manitoba.

Maintained/enhanced quality of agricultural lands.

Additional funds attracted from other sources as partnerships are formed to carry out program activities.

Reduced impact by agriculture on the environment.

- Five theme areas were included to focus on environmentally sustainable agricultural practices. These included:
  - Biological Cropping Systems
  - Water Quality Related to Agricultural Issues,
  - Agri-Energy
  - Northern Foods/New Production Systems
  - Ecological Goods and Services (EG&S)/Climate Change.

- Two EG&S projects were funded in 2008/09 totalling $125.1 with the majority of the funding allocated for the Alternate Land Use Service project through the Keystone Agricultural Producers.

- Biological Cropping Systems funding last year totalled $175.5 to support rotational studies, reduced crop inputs and perennial grain crops. Examples of these projects include Crop Rotation in Potatoes, Potato Production Demonstrations, Reduced Input Cropping Systems, Growing your own Nitrogen and the Manitoba Low-Till Organic Research Program.

- Projects under the theme Water Quality Related to Agricultural Issues addressed nutrient management topics and totalled $170.4. Examples of these projects include:
  - Nutrient Cycling in Bale Grazing Cattle
  - Validation of Potato Nitrogen Fertility
  - Effect of Nitrogen & Potassium Rate & Timing on Specific Gravity of Ranger Russet
  - Evaluation of Polymer Coated ESN Fertilizer versus Standard Urea in Irrigated Processing Potato Production in the Cypress River/Glenboro Area
  - Soil Fertility/Production Workshops.

3 (j) Agricultural Sustainability Initiative

Expenditures by Sub-Appropriation	Actual 2008/2009 $(000s)	Estimate 2008/2009 FTEs	Estimate 2008/2009 $(000s)	Variance Over/(Under) $(000s)	Expl. No.
Other Expenditures	833	-	1,118	(285)	1
Total Sub-Appropriation	**833**	-	**1,118**	**(285)**	

1. *The Agricultural Sustainability Initiative provides funding and technical assistance to carry out sustainable agriculture projects with the goal of offering new farming options to producers that improve the agriculture industry's environmental performance. On an annual basis, costs can vary for a number of reasons, including client demand and weather conditions. The decrease in 2008/09 is attributed to a combination of project deferrals and delays experienced by clients.*

Appropriation 3 (k) – Irrigation Development

In September of 2002, a $1,072.5 provincial Irrigation Development Program (IDP) was announced with a goal of developing 50,000 annually irrigated acres over a ten-year period.

The IDP was modeled after the previous Surplus Water Irrigation Initiative program, with programming being offered in areas such as:

- Off-farm irrigation development
- Area/block development and management
- Investigation and demonstration, technology transfer, environmental protection, public awareness education and communication.

The expected results, as planned during the 2008/09 estimates process, are displayed below in italics followed by bulleted actual results.

Objective 1:

To facilitate the development of retention ponds, irrigation water distribution systems and related off-farm infrastructure in support of irrigated crop production.

Off-Farm Irrigation Development
Development of retention ponds and water distribution systems to service 50,000 additional annually-irrigated acres over a ten-year period (average 5,000 per year).

- IDP supported the development of 23 irrigation projects.
- Twelve of the projects supported were continued phases of the development of projects started in previous fiscal years. Water development amounts were reported in previous annual reports.
- There were 11 new projects supported, adding 2,976 acre feet of water to annually irrigate 4,996 acres.
- The eligible off-farm support to irrigation development was $1,663.7.
- Since 2002, the IDP program has supported the development of 16,711 annual acres using 10,541 acre feet of water.
- The amount of dry-land processing potato production decreased to 7,681 acres.
- Developing irrigation increases the potential for agricultural production. Crops which are subject to moisture stress can be grown in developed acres. Increased acreage and quality in potatoes and other vegetables along with fruit crops are direct outcomes of developing irrigation potential.

Objective 2:

To provide programming for Area Block Development and Management.

Area Block Development and Management
Support regional irrigation groups to develop and operate irrigation infrastructure in an environmentally sustainable manner.

- The IDP program provided support to the management of 11 area/block projects with four holding companies. The amount of support provided was $66.5.

Objective 3:

To provide technical and specialized services to producers, irrigation associations and commodity groups to support irrigated crop production and to support technology transfer and monitoring programs to support environmentally sustainable irrigation practices.

Provision of technical assistance to producers related to irrigated potato production, soil and water management and crop rotations.

Continue support of soil and water quality monitoring at selected sites.

- The IDP program provided support for five projects to obtain environmental approvals.
- Technology transfer of irrigation was provided at three regular agronomy meetings in three locations and in a salinity workshop. Funding of $1.7 was provided to these activities.
- The IDP program provided $50.7 to support three investigation projects.
- Crop water demand information was faxed daily to Manitoba Potato Producers.

3 (k) Irrigation Development

Expenditures by Sub-Appropriation	Actual 2008/2009 $(000s)	Estimate 2008/2009 FTEs	Estimate 2008/2009 $(000s)	Variance Over/(Under) $(000s)	Expl. No.
Other Expenditures	1,815	-	600	1,215	1
Total Sub-Appropriation	**1,815**	-	**600**	**1,215**	

1. *The increase in 2008/09 costs associated with Irrigation Development is due to greater than anticipated client demand.*

Appropriation 3 (I) – Less: Recoverable from Rural Economic Development Initiatives (REDI)

This program provides for the recovery of capital grant expenditures related to the Veterinary District Technical Enhancements grant from the Rural Economic Development Initiatives Program.

The expected results, as planned during the 2008/09 estimates process, are displayed below in italics followed by bulleted actual results.

Objective:

To facilitate the funding necessary to assist Veterinary Districts to enhance technical and infrastructure capabilities to meet the increased demand for diagnostic tests from the expanding livestock industry

The 28 rural veterinary district animal clinics will replace aging equipment and outdated technology, and upgrade/replace aging physical plants to better serve their clients.

- Funding of $200.0 was provided to the rural Veterinary Services Districts Clinics through the Infrastructure and Equipment Program to upgrade equipment and clinic infrastructure projects.

3 (I) Less: Recoverable from Rural Economic Development Initiatives

Expenditures by Sub-Appropriation	Actual 2008/2009 $(000s)	Estimate 2008/2009 FTEs	Estimate 2008/2009 $(000s)	Variance Over/(Under) $(000s)	Expl. No.
Recoveries	(200)	-	(200)	-	
Total Sub-Appropriation	**(200)**	-	**(200)**	**-**	

Appropriation 4
Agri-Food and Rural Development

The Agri-Food and Rural Development Division provides front-line delivery and supporting extension programs in partnership with stakeholders to enhance the viability of family farms, to provide value-added and diversification opportunities, to strengthen the capacity of Manitoba's food processing industry, and to build vibrant rural and northern communities.

Through the division's Growing Opportunities (GO) Teams Branch and Knowledge Centres, extension services and technical leadership is delivered by staff in farm production, farm and rural business management, community and economic development, entrepreneurship, Aboriginal agriculture, immigration, youth and leadership capacity development, urban and consumer awareness, northern foods, food processing, industrial development, and food commercialization and marketing.

The division provides leadership and resources to accelerate initiatives that will create new employment opportunities and capital investment that anchors sustainable communities. Financial and professional support is also supplied to economically viable projects in partnership with communities, municipal governments, local and regional community development organizations, entrepreneurs, businesses, co-operatives, and youth organizations.

The Agri-Food and Rural Development Division also works closely with many organizations, partners and institutions such as the Rural Development Institute, the University of Manitoba, and the Canadian Centre for Agri-food Research in Health and Medicine to provide a platform of research and science that facilitates economic development and commercialization in Manitoba's agriculture and rural sectors.

Appropriation 4 (a) – Growing Opportunities (GO) Centres

GO teams are working in co-operation with other departments to implement a single window delivery approach to client service. GO teams, with knowledge centres, are also moving to a horizontal team approach to provide integrated and specialized service to rural clients.

Advisory Councils

Each GO team has an established advisory council comprised of agricultural producers, entrepreneurs, community leaders, and business people. These advisory councils provided input to GO teams with the development of three-year directional plans that link to the department's priorities.

The expected results, as planned during the 2008/09 estimates process, are displayed below in italics followed by bulleted actual results.

Objective 1:
Building Vibrant Rural Communities: To encourage the sustainable development of Manitoba's agricultural and food sector while maintaining a healthy rural and northern landscape.

Organize and deliver three bio-energy workshops in the province.

- Two bio-energy seminars were organized:
    - "The Farming Energy Seminar" was held in January 2009 at Ag Days, attracting 250 people. Awareness was raised about on-farm wind energy generation.
    - A "Provincial Biomass Workshop" held in Portage la Prairie in March 2009 attracted 50 individuals.

Organize and develop six farm and rural business succession seminars.

- Staff assisted in four inter-generational farm transfer seminars that attracted 113 participants.

Community investigation and development of five agri-energy development projects.

- Staff consulted with 19 clients on the development of biodiesel and ethanol projects.

- Provided 16 Biofuel Update newsletters/emails in 2008 to more than 75 clients and staff.
- In January 2009, Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives (MAFRI) staff presented a Biodiesel budget at the International Biodiesel conference in California.
- Staff worked with local economic development groups on four wind energy projects.

Additional Results:
Central Plains Water Study / Boyne River Study / Treherne Dam
- Staff worked with local groups to assist with the Boyne River study that investigated water allocation, as well as supply and demand for water from the Boyne River.
- An Assiniboine Delta Aquifer (ADA) study in co-operation with the ADA Action Group and the National Water Supply Expansion Program was proposed.

Objective 2:
To provide rural and urban extension-based delivery of programs and services supporting farm, rural and northern families and their communities to achieve a high quality of life through prosperous farm and rural businesses.

- MAFRI staff hosted the 62nd annual meeting of the Canadian Agricultural Extension Council in Russell to share extension programs and develop co-operative extension approaches and resources with departments across Canada.

Enhanced capacity of 60 young and beginning farm families and rural and northern families to develop sustainable farm and rural and northern businesses via the Succeeding Generations Initiative.
- Staff is involved in the Bridging Generations Initiative with 408 individual client consultations, including workshop delivery and financial statement evaluation.

Enhanced ability of 200 farm families to respond to the challenges of a competitive sectoral environment through improved marketing, production, management and leadership skills via marketing extension seminars.
- A new initiative, Grain Marketing Week, was delivered by MAFRI staff at four locations (Brandon, Dauphin, Carman, Selkirk) during February 2009. The seminar series which focused on grain marketing was attended by 224 producers.

Strengthened Farm Business Management Livestock Team delivering an extension strategy specific to the challenges facing farm families involved in the livestock sector.
- As part of the Interlake/Westlake Excess Moisture Response, MAFRI has delivered an extension and awareness program on the benefits of production insurance, available financial programs as well as providing over 100 producers with targeted farm management advice.
- Staff developed and delivered the Manitoba Forage Assistance Program across Manitoba.
- MAFRI staff made presentations at 14 Manitoba Cattle Producers Association fall district meetings to 391 producers.
- Sixteen winter grazing club workshops provided information on variety selection in flooded areas and nutrient management.
- Excess Moisture Recovery meetings were delivered in six locations, Arborg, Fisher Branch, Moosehorn, Lundar, Eddystone and Alonsa, with 81 producers attending. Topics included AgriStability, Advance Payment Programs, debt management, AgriInsurance and cropping options.
- Thirty-six provincial extension meetings have been held with 774 farmers and ranchers attending.

Objective 3:
To assist farm and rural families to enhance their knowledge and skills in business management, marketing, sustainable production, adding value, diversification and economic development, within a sustainable agriculture and community framework.

Improved stability of farm, rural and northern businesses through the increased adoption of sound management practices incorporating production, financing, and marketing factors and the use of risk management tools.

- Individual Farm Management consultations - MAFRI staff was involved in 87 individual consultations, assessing operational viability of farms, assisted 38 families in farm succession planning, trained 58 farmers on Farm Plan and worked with eight Farm Mediation Board cases.
- Staff assisted producers to transition to the new AgriStability and AgriInvest programs. Twelve information sessions were held with 200 producers attending.
- Over 100 producers participated in AgriStability one-on-one consultations in 21 GO team locations.

Review 45 crop management plans for young farmers enrolled in the Young Farmer Crop Credit Program.
- The program provides beginning farmers a rebate on their production insurance if they complete a crop plan with their local Farm Production Advisor.
- A total of 104 young Manitoba producers completed crop plans as part of the program, with 55 of these as new participants in 2008.

Develop and deliver a crop residue burning mitigation strategy.
- Four farmer focus group sessions were held, with 38 participants in attendance. The purpose of the sessions was to gather producers' opinions and concerns related to crop residue burning.
- A literature review was contracted in order to gather research relevant to Manitoba conditions. The review will be completed by the fall of 2009.
- Four crop residue articles distributed to 575 producers in the Red River region.

Enhanced quality of soil and water resources through the adoption of environmentally sound production practices by 600 farm operations.
- Staff delivered ten workshops to 134 participants in Phase I of Agriculture Policy Framework.
- Organized one "Managing the Waters Edge" meeting, with 60 attending.
- MAFRI and industry partners organized and delivered presentations at four two-day soil fertility workshops with more than 100 retail agronomists and farmers in attendance.
- Staff provided information seminars to producers on regulatory issues; delivered Manure Application Rate Calculator training to 14 producers.
- Four projects (Valleys North, Central Plains, Pembina and North Parkland GO Teams) demonstrated the effect of bale grazing on soil nutrients, forage productivity and on the identification of environmental risks associated with this practice. The focus of the projects was to educate farmers on maximizing the benefits (reduced livestock production costs, higher productivity), while reducing the potential impact of nutrients on the environment.

Additional Results:

Crop Extension Events
- Six crop extension meetings (Steinbach, Giroux, Starbuck, Beausejour, Selkirk, Moosehorn) that attracted 563 farmers and ag-industry partners.
- "Grain Information Day Seminar" presented to 130 producers in Selkirk in January 2009.
- "Woodlot Management Workshop" with 23 producers participating.
- St. Jean Farm Days, which had 50 booths, was attended by 400 people.
- Grain Marketing Seminars were delivered at four locations to 224 producers.
- Plant Identification Workshop which had 60 attendees.
- Staff participated in the Invasive Species Council of Manitoba Annual General Meeting with 45 in attendance.
- Held sixteen webinars from May through September; 360 participants viewed or attended.
- Corn and Soybean Day attended by 150 people.

Livestock Extension Events
- Dairy Club Seminars - staff assisted producer clubs in organizing the Holstein Dairy Club meetings. Three hundred producers and industry participants attended the seminars held in Interlake and Eastman.
- In co-operation with Manitoba Conservation and business sponsors, held a seminar in Balmoral on nutrient management, manure storage issues and regulations. Fifty-six dairy producers attended.
- "Low Stress Cattle Handling Workshops" – five locations, 111 participants.

- Interlake Value-Added Cattle Initiative - six producers were involved in the pilot project and 28 producers attended the meeting.
- Livestock Guardian Dog program presented by staff at three meetings to 137 producers. Ten dogs were in the program in 2008 and ongoing monitoring of 36 dogs continues.

Forage Extension Events
- Holistic Management Clubs - organized seven new Holistic Management Clubs with 125 producers.
- Staff worked with 21 Grazing Clubs to improve grazing management and increase beef production.
- Staff made presentations on results from :
    - Four extended corn grazing demonstrations.
    - Three bale grazing demonstrations.
    - One brush control/rotational grazing demonstration.
    - Sixteen winter workshops - 212 ranchers.
    - Six field days - 120 ranchers.
    - Five provincial Forage and Beef Week workshops – 700 producers.
    - Seven forage seminars - 140 producers.

Agriculture Crown Land Program Delivery
- MAFRI GO team staff assisted clients in ensuring the profitable and sustainable management of agriculture Crown lands, advised lease and permit holders with land management decisions, assisted clients with farm transfers and unit transfers, and administered lease renewals and conducted evaluations of carrying capacity on Crown land properties.

Manitoba Ag Days
- Twenty GO staff members were involved in the organization, seminar planning and delivery, and in manning MAFRI displays on "Buy Local" and "Farm Business Management".
- Over 30,000 people attend the event over a three-day period.
- An estimated $7.5 million was injected into the local economy.

Objective 4:
To assist new and existing rural business ventures start, grow and thrive.

Conduct six "Business Start" workshops, targeting business entrepreneurs in rural Manitoba.
- In partnership with Competitiveness, Training and Trade (CTT) and Community Futures, MAFRI continues to hold Business Start Workshops. Four three-day workshops covering aspects of starting a business and focus on immigrants and new business owners attracted 80 participants.
- Staff delivered "Rural Business Succession (Transfer)" workshops in Treherne, Arborg, Selkirk and Shoal Lake. Sixty people attended these sessions.
- Staff assisted the Department of Education, Citizenship and Youth with assessment and business plan development from Young Entrepreneurs Program (YEP) applicants. YEP 2008/09 totals include: 43 applications, ten approved, five rejected and 28 pending approval/rejection.

Deliver a Rural Entrepreneurship Conference for rural Manitoba residents.
- MAFRI and partners hosted the second "Take the Leap – Rural Entrepreneurship Conference" in Dauphin in October 2008 with 100 participants from across Manitoba. Sixteen entrepreneurs used video-conferencing technology to join the conference.
- MAFRI staff delivered "Capturing Opportunities" in April 2008 in Brandon. More than 400 business and community leaders attended the event.
- As part of "Business Development Month" in October 2008, staff partnered with financial institutions and economic development organizations to hold events promoting entrepreneurship, business management, and leadership. Twenty-eight events such as the "Business Leaders' Forums" were organized. The forum was held in eight communities with more than 240 participants.

Implementation and establishment of ten value chains.
- Five staff assisted with eight workshops on value chain strategies. Workshops were held in four locations with a total of 200 participants.
- Outreach through meetings, brochures and promotion of the Value Chains Manitoba Initiative to producers, processors, distributors, wholesalers and retailers.

Organization of six "Women in Business" groups to foster rural women entrepreneur development.

- Twelve meetings in four locations focused on women in business with 215 women attending.
- Staff works with a variety of farm women's organizations including the Southwest Farm Women's Network and the Manitoba Farm Women's Conference in the areas of board governance and program development.
- Farm Women Extension Programming
    - "Skills for Farm Women Workshops" – eight workshops with 55 participants.
    - Farm Equipment Operation Training for Women with 40 attendees.
    - Farm Accounting Workshop had 19 attendees

Ten immigrant entrepreneurs to have developed new food and business opportunities.

- "Immigrant Business Workshop" held in Morden with over 45 immigrant entrepreneurs in attendance. Approximately ten clients are currently consulting with MAFRI staff in regards to establishing a rural business. Types of business under development include purchasing a rural hotel, establishing a truck repair workshop, opening a take-out restaurant, establishing an international foods grocery store, and opening a bridal salon.

Provide consultation to 25 young entrepreneurs via the Young Aboriginal Entrepreneurs Program.

- Consultations were conducted with ten applicants for the Young Rural Aboriginal Entrepreneurship Program. One young entrepreneur has successfully secured funding which resulted in a retail business in The Pas.
- Presentations have been made to 20 Northern Affairs community councils comprised of approximately 80 individuals, as well as to 15 University College of the North aboriginal business course students. A presentation was made to 28 northern high school business students.

Establishment of ten new organic enterprises.

- Staff was involved with the establishment of two new organic retailers, one in Winnipeg and one in rural Manitoba. Consultation occurred with eight organic operators that have added a new business line to their existing line of organic products including milk, beef, beverage, grains and an abattoir. A series of four organic production workshops were organized across the province with more than 25 people attending.

Additional Results:

Business Development Projects

- Currently, the GO Teams Branch is involved in 325 extension, business and value-added related projects. Examples include: alternative energy (18), food product development (55), manufacturing (26), co-op development (four), rural infrastructure (18), immigration (seven), tourism (ten), retail (43), service (39), marketing (11) and value chains (two).
- GO teams secured the "Canada Farm Business Management Council's Marketing Caravan" (one of only four stops in Canada) in which 51 participants attended the workshop on marketing your agri-food products.

Community Development

- Staff assisted communities in piloting the first ever First Impressions Community Exchange Program in Manitoba. This program will provide momentum for downtown revitalization, tourism development, business development and community strategic plans. Ten communities were matched: Carman and Carberry, Melita and Shoal Lake, Roblin and Riverton, RM Woodlands and RM DeSalaberry, Selkirk and The Pas.
- As part of Hometown Manitoba, staff worked on 262 applications with $478.4 in approved funding. A new component for tree planting was added for 2009/2010.
- MAFRI staff delivered 34 visioning sessions and 52 strategic planning sessions to 30 communities.
- Photo voice, a methodology which combines photography and stories as a form of community consultation, is being piloted in Virden with retired teachers and a grade six class.

Agri-Tourism

- The Manitoba Agri-Tourism Development Framework and Strategy report was completed in April 2008 with release slated for Capturing Opportunities 2009.

- MAFRI staff co-ordinated an Agri-Tourism Best Practices Study Tour in the fall 2008. Tours were held September 30 for Western Manitoba, and October 1 for Eastern Manitoba. Twenty-four participants received workbooks to help them identify and utilize best practices in their operation.
- Staff participated in the geo-caching promotion with Travel Manitoba and the Manitoba Regional Tourism Network. The thrust of the promotion is to increase travel to, and business in rural communities. Examples of geo-caching efforts include the Ashern Chamber of Commerce Geo-caching Poker Derby and the 2nd annual Geo-Cache Challenge – 32 teams registered and explored 26 rural destinations in the Eastman area. Both events will continue in 2009.

Establishment or retention of 20 new or existing businesses to add value through processing of Manitoba agriculture and food products.

- Staff is providing consultation on 65 food development projects.
- Twenty-seven food clients competed in the "Great Manitoba Food Fight". Staff provided food product and business development technical assistance to 21 competitors.
- "Five Steps Involved in Food Commercialization" workshops were delivered to 105 participants.
- Staff working in partnership with Eastern Plains Saskatoons Incorporated and Prairies East Sustainable Agriculture Initiative (PESAI) developed an initiative that resulted in a producer-directed organization producing and marketing saskatoons.
- In partnership with PESAI, staff delivered two "Kick Start Your Food Product Business" workshops in February and March of 2009. Workshops were held in Beausejour and Teulon with a total of 43 clients attending.
- In partnership with the Boissevain-Morton Farmer's Market, staff co-ordinated two 'Kick Start Your Food Product Idea' workshops in Brandon with 56 participants, 34 of which were students of the Manitoba Institute of Culinary Arts.
- A "Healthy Sustainable Community Kitchens" workshop was held in Arborg with 43 participants.
- Staff organized ten "Baby Boomer Focus Group" sessions to develop healthier food products from Manitoba inputs along with the University of Manitoba, Food Development Canada and The Manitoba Food Processors Association – 120 participants.
- Staff supported the activities of 42 local farmers' markets in Winnipeg and rural communities. Six new farmers' markets were started in 2008 – Arnes, Crystal City, Osborne Village Market in Winnipeg, Pilot Mound, Stonewall and Vita.
- Staff led the Winnipeg Farmers' Market Network and is working with this group to organize an inner city market for summer 2009.

Objective 5:
To provide rural and northern Manitobans, through an extension approach, with a single window to address opportunities identified by GO Team Advisory Councils.

Development of a single window delivery mechanism platform for Growing Forward by December 2008.

- MAFRI, through its 40 GO offices will implement single window service by delivering Growing Forward programming in the 2009/10 fiscal year.
- The role of GO Team Advisory Councils is to ensure that departmental programs reflect local community and industry needs. All 11 GO teams conduct yearly consultations with their stakeholders to help guide the team's GO Team Directional Plan.
- Videoconferencing Initiative - 13 MAFRI GO centres are equipped with video conference technology enabling training and meetings for business and agriculture clients across Manitoba. This is part of a 38-site network across Manitoba which includes Employment Manitoba, Canada Manitoba Business Service Centre and Manitoba Community Futures offices.

Objective 6:
To assist, through an extension approach, rural and northern communities to build the needed capacity for development and growth.

Prepare a joint MAFRI and Labour and Immigration strategic plan to co-operatively plot rural immigration development.

- Labor and Immigration, and MAFRI developed an interdepartmental strategy to address the issue of co-ordinated immigration service delivery in rural Manitoba.
- The Manitoba Opportunities Fund in 2008/09 approved five projects totaling $310.0.

- Five proposals totaling $309.1 were submitted for 2009/10. Continuation of projects in Red River, Central Plains, Pembina, Southwest, Parkland (Valleys North, North Parkland and South Parkland) and one new project from Central Plains.
- Staff assisted with the establishment of the Neepawa Area Immigrant Settlement and Integration Advisory Committee including assistance with welcoming initiatives and initiation of a settlement program for newcomers, including those employed at Springhill Farms.
- Staff facilitated development of Southwest Regional Immigration Committee with six participating communities for immigrant recruitment and retention.

Work co-operatively with CTT to advance the outreach of the BizPal Initiative.

- Staff provides leadership in the expansion in communities covered by BizPal. BizPal provides an electronic tool to determine needs for business permits and licensing. Program has expanded from Morden to Brandon, Winnipeg, Steinbach, Portage and Parkland area. Two-thirds of Manitoba has BizPal coverage.
- BizPal is being pursued by all the municipalities represented by Eastman Regional Development Inc. and is a major focus of their activity.
- The six municipalities of the South Central Planning District are now enrolling in the program.

Enhanced capacity of 150 northern families to develop self-sufficiency in producing nutritious foods.

- Staff developed and delivered four "Market Garden Club" meetings attended by 100 people from the Peguis and Fisher River First Nations communities.
- MAFRI served seven northern communities and 110 gardens in 2008. Oxford House led with 60 gardens. As well, there were 230 raspberry and 260 strawberry plants distributed.
- MAFRI provided technical support through workshops, consultations with gardeners and distribution of resource materials.
- First Nations Garden Clubs - two meetings were held in Fisher River Cree Nation with 30 in attendance, and 25 attended a meeting held in Peguis First Nation.
- GO Team staff participated in Wellness Fairs on the Swan Lake First Nation (125 people) as well as in the village of Notre Dame (180 people). Additional Women's Wellness Luncheons and Workshops were held in the Eastman and North Parkland GO Teams.

Five new co-operative community economic development activities to build vibrant rural communities.

- Staff continues to work on co-op projects: Parkland Industrial Hemp Growers, Parkland Agricultural Resource Co-operative (PARC), Lee River Marina, Brokenhead BioFuels, Lundar Consumer's Co-op Inc., and the Lakeview Organic Ranch Co-op.
- PARC hosted the "Energizing Rural Communities in a Global Marketplace Role of Co-operatives" at the Rural Communities Conference in Dauphin in November of 2008. MAFRI staff participated in this conference. Thirty people attended.
- Staff are assisting the Organic Producers Association of Manitoba co-operative with financial training and board governance.
- The Lakeview Organic Ranch Co-op, a not-for-profit co-operative grazing group located in the Gladstone area, had its first successful year. In co-operation with the RM of Lakeview and MAFRI, it is now investigating the opportunity to develop a major organic pasture for the production of organic calves. The co-op consists of six members that assembled 133 cows that are being fed organic hay and are grazing on 5,200 acres of native pasture.
- MAFRI staff provided technical information and consultation to the Interlake Cattlemen's Co-op.
- A co-op information workshop was held in Lundar with 13 participants interested in forming a grocery co-op.

Additional Results:

Rural Leadership Development

- Staff has developed a quarterly bulletin on volunteer management issues, trends and resources. It is currently distributed to over 200 volunteer organizations. Three workshops were held with a total of 36 participants.

Objective 7:
To assist organizations, individuals and communities to build leadership and management skills

of youth.

Viable 4-H program with stable enrolment levels.

- GO teams provide support to ten area councils with leadership development and mentoring new council members.
- Staff provides ongoing assistance to 195 clubs with 3,073 members and 1,272 leaders through the support of the organization and delivery of council events such as rallies, camps, intermediate/senior member events, communications competitions, as well as beef shows, club achievements and livestock judging/grooming clinics and chaperoning national events.

Assist Junior Achievement (JA) in the co-ordination of rural and northern program delivery in 20 schools in rural and northern Manitoba.

- One hundred and thirty JA programs were delivered in rural Manitoba with MAFRI delivering 16 of the programs which included 461 students.

Co-ordinated extension activities with 58 Agricultural Societies to address extension needs.

- Partnered with 58 Ag Societies in delivery of extension activities including various meetings and events.
- Agricultural societies partnered with MAFRI in events such as 4-H achievements for beef and horse clubs, agricultural education and "Buy Local" exhibits as well as student safety events. More than 30 events were organized.
- Staff organized the "Ag Societies Invitational Night" at the Red River Exhibition. Twelve agricultural societies participated and sourced ideas for activities and displays to be used in other agriculture awareness events.

Objective 8:
To increase the public's awareness of the importance and contribution of the agriculture and agri-food industry to the province's economy.

Assist with delivery of the Direct Farm Marketing Conference.

- Staff delivered the 14th annual Manitoba Direct Farm Marketing Conference in Brandon on February 27/28. The conference attracted 100 producers and entrepreneurs to learn marketing strategies and emerging trends in farm business diversification, agri-food, agri-tourism and farm markets.
- Staff also co-ordinated the "Celebrate Local Flavors" event at the conference with 20 producers showcasing 22 Manitoba food products.
- The Pembina GO Team developed a "Feast on Local Foods" promotional campaign that included four presentations, eight displays, distribution of 7,000 placemats at 25 events in 21 communities and recipe cards distributed at 20 events. Ten community billboards promoting a "Buy Local" concept were developed for use by communities.
- Staff organized public awareness displays at events such as "100 Mile Diet" at the Red River Exhibition, Ag Days and the St. Norbert Farmers' Market.

To increase students' exposure to the agri-food industry and potential career opportunities through "Agriculture in the Classroom" programs to ten schools.

- Staff delivered "Your Breakfast – It Starts with a Farmer" at Ag Awareness Day 2008, which took place at the Legislative Building. There were 130 participants, with media attending the event.
- Delivered 3,100,000 messages on food and farms of Manitoba through the "Great Tastes of Manitoba" and related Food Manitoba events.
- Staff assisted "Agriculture in the Classroom": delivered an "Amazing Agriculture Adventure" event in Brandon and Winnipeg with 3,000 students and teachers in attendance. Staff also delivered "Made in Manitoba" breakfast programs to Manitoba schools.
- Participated in seven rural and urban career fairs, promoting agri-food careers to high school and university students.
- Ten MAFRI staff, along with seven summer students co-ordinated MAFRI's ten day participation at the Red River Exhibition. One hundred and fifty thousand attendees were exposed to the business of agriculture.
- Staff provided curriculum-based ag awareness activities and resources at SAG (Special Area Groups), a province-wide teacher in-service day held in Winnipeg, attended by 700 science teachers.

- Staff organized and delivered public awareness messaging at public events in 2008 including: International Children's Day with 15,000 attendees, Royal Manitoba Winter Fair with 115,000 attending, Heritage Day, University of Winnipeg seen by 200, and the Red River Exhibition with 78,000 attendees.
- Staff partnered with the Manitoba Farm & Rural Stress Line in the planning and hosting of Farmer Appreciation Day in Brandon on October 20th; 1000 in attendance.
- Staff presented a "Down on the Farm" educational display at Northwest Round-Up Rodeo and Exhibition held in Swan River. One thousand people were in attendance.
- Staff delivered farm safety educational and awareness messaging through:
    - Nine Progressive Farm Safety Days attended by 1,077 students.
    - Two "Always Be Careful" farm safety presentations.
    - Displays at seven events including Ag Days, Grain Marketing Days, Potato Days, Farm Focus, Preschool Wellness Days, at daycares and at machinery dealership events.
    - Staff submitted farm safety information to newsletters and local papers.
    - Eight "Farm Safety Workshop" presentations – two of which were in First Nation communities.
    - Six one-day Farm Safety camps were observed by 800 children.
    - Staff worked with Manitoba Conservation to deliver a media event for International Biodiversity Day 2008 based on the theme of "Biodiversity and Agriculture."

Objective 9:
To enhance the public's confidence in the quality, safety and economy of Manitoba's food supply.

- Twenty-five "Age Verification" workshops with more than 50,000 animals being age verified.
- As part of the Turkey On-Farm Food Safety program, and in conjunction with the CVO staff, staff conducted 6 premise audits with producers.

Additional Results:

Aboriginal Programming

- Staff worked with the Long Plains, Waywayseecappo, Rolling River, Swan Lake and Dakota Tipi First Nation communities in providing access to MAFRI services and programs.
- Staff continue to work with MAFRI's Aboriginal 4-H Specialist on inquiries about youth programming such as 4-H, YEP and Business Start Workshops.
- Partnered with Community School, Health Canada, the local fire department, the RCMP and many other organizations, to hold Waywayseecappo Safety Day on May 28, 2008. A total of 118 Grade 4-6 students participated.
- Staff worked with Sioux Valley Dakota Nation School to establish 4-H program within community. Staff accompanied Dakota Ojibwa Community Futures to community planning sessions in Sioux Valley and Canuapawakpa Dakota Nations.
- Staff had a booth at the Swan Lake First Nation Wellness Day.

4 (a) Growing Opportunities Centres

Expenditures by Sub-Appropriation	Actual 2008/2009 $(000s)	Estimate 2008/2009 FTEs	Estimate 2008/2009 $(000s)	Variance Over/(Under) $(000s)	Expl. No.
(1) Salaries and Employee Benefits	9,972	156.72	10,373	(401)	
(2) Other Expenditures	3,387		3,487	(100)	
Total Sub-Appropriation	**13,359**	**156.72**	**13,860**	**(501)**	

Appropriation 4 (b) – Economy and Rural Development

The Economy and Rural Development Knowledge Centre is aimed at developing and sustaining a dynamic and viable rural and northern Manitoba, and at providing leadership in the areas of economic and rural development. The Economy and Rural Development Knowledge Centre is located in Brandon and is comprised of two sections.

The Farm and Rural Champion Section's focus is the development of individual and community capacity towards economic growth for a viable and sustainable rural and northern Manitoba. This section works towards increasing participation and collaborative involvement of specific target groups including youth, Aboriginal people, women, immigrants and young farmers.

The Business Development Section focuses on increasing the prevalence of value-added processing, the growing of new businesses, the fostering of entrepreneurship in rural Manitoba and the sustainability and growth of farm and rural businesses.

The expected results, as planned during the 2008/09 estimates process, are displayed below in italics followed by bulleted actual results.

Objective 1:

To build human and social capacity in rural communities so they can identify and act on economic development opportunities.

Four thousand rural Manitoba youth will complete a 4-H project and participate in a 4-H club.

- Manitoba had 195 4-H clubs working within ten area councils with 3,073 members and 1,272 leaders.

One hundred and twenty youth from across the province will have improved skills and knowledge related to youth citizenship activities.

- Two hundred and thirty-nine youth from across the province have improved skills and knowledge related to youth citizenship activities in youth leadership conferences, workshops and events.

Collaboration will occur within programs, activities and initiatives among farm, rural and northern stakeholders, with associated increased integration and leverage of community and economic development resources to optimize benefits for rural and northern Manitobans.

- Fifty-nine Agricultural Societies with 12,844 members received Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives (MAFRI) services and support in strategic planning, annual convention planning, vision/mission statement development and partnership expansion and capacity building within their communities.

- Twenty-second annual Manitoba Farm Women's Conference was held in Brandon with 106 participants.

- Thirty Manitoba Women's Institutes with 493 members received MAFRI services and organizational support in partnership expansion and capacity building within their communities.

- Ninety-six women from across Canada attended the Associated Country Women of the World conference hosted by Manitoba.

- Five projects for new Canadians were supported within rural Manitoba under the Manitoba Opportunities Fund.

Community economic development, farm and business development and management and co-operative development tools will be used by communities, organizations and individuals.

- An Entrepreneurship and Business Development pathfinder tool was developed and a webinar was delivered to staff.

- Delivered 12 webinars on Entrepreneurship and Business Development principles to staff and clients.

- Community Profiles website was maintained.

Strategic community and economic development plans and activities successfully developed and implemented by community and regional organizations with local input and decision-making.

- Presentations and surveys on 4-H Quality Equation were completed. The foundation of the 4-H Quality Equation program has led to the support of quality project development.

- A "Youth Development Framework" for Manitoba 4-H projects led to 12 4-H project series being identified for revisions including progressive skill development levels: Explore, Discover, and Master.

- Worked with Manitoba 4-H Council on their Board Governance model, leadership initiatives and co-ordination program delivery.

Rural organizations will have community and industry volunteers with enhanced capacity and skills.

- Over 120 participants from six rural community organizations attended through the Manitoba Association of Agricultural Societies' (MAAS) annual convention to discuss innovative approaches to community engagement and mobilization.

- Seven Regional Development Corporations received $544.9 in funding to support regional initiatives as determined by their boards.

- Fifty-four Agricultural Societies received infrastructure grants totaling $94.5 for the maintenance of facilities in rural communities.

- Fifty-five Agricultural Societies received education grants totaling $262.0 for community development projects.

- Over 50 volunteer leaders participated in leadership workshops delivered at the 4-H Provincial Leaders Conference.

- Over 100 youth made public presentations as part of the Manitoba 4-H communications event to an audience of more than 400 people.

- The 4-H Youth Leadership Development Program facilitated the delivery of three leadership workshops. Six senior members provided instruction to 60 participants.

- Training event was held with 32 Home Craft Judges and five Ag Societies.

Objective 2:

To increase the prevalence of value-added processing and to grow businesses and economic development opportunities in rural and northern Manitoba.

Development and diversification of the rural and northern Manitoba economy including increased employment, investment and tax revenues.

Increased number of entrepreneurs starting businesses.

Feasibility studies will be completed on business ideas.

- Young Rural Aboriginal Entrepreneurship Initiative supported project costs supporting a Métis -owned meat cutting and processing facility.

- A partnership between MAFRI and six First Nations has resulted in the development of a German market for First Nation Bison meat.

- Five projects were supported under the Manitoba Agri-Venture Initiative.

- 2008 Capturing Opportunities reached 1,408 rural people with business, market intelligence and networking opportunities and information.

- Twenty-seven entrepreneurs participated in the Capturing Opportunities Great Manitoba Food Fight competition.

- Ten exhibitors and nine food vendors utilized Capturing Opportunities event to showcase their agri-product processing businesses.

- A worker co-operative of immigrants, established to produce and market exotic vegetables, was provided organizational support.

Objective 3:

To increase the use of co-operative models in Manitoba to meet business and community needs.

A Manitoba co-operative development strategy will be established and supported by the co-operative development community.

- A Manitoba co-operative development strategy was developed and is supported by the co-operative development community. A steering committee to implement the strategy with representation from the Anglophone and Francophone Co-operative organizations and the province was established.

Fifteen new co-operatives will be registered in Manitoba.

- Fifteen new co-operatives were registered in Manitoba.

Community economic development, farm and business development and management and co-operative development tools will be used by communities, organizations and individuals.

- A brochure outlining the co-operative strategy was developed and circulated to over 400 Manitoba co-operatives.

- A co-operative pathfinder tool was developed.

Rural organizations will have community and industry volunteers with enhanced capacity and skills.

- Advisory services and support were provided to over 28 co-operatives in 2008.

- Provided secretariat support to the Co-operative Promotion Board and the Co-operative Loans and Loans Guarantee Board. Twelve grants under the Co-operative Promotion Board were approved.

- More than 50 individuals received basic training with an additional 22 participating in a two-day advanced co-operative development program.

- Twelve staff participated in advanced co-operative development training that was piloted nationally.

- Three webinars, a DVD, and information on Co-op Zone were shared with co-operators and MAFRI staff.

Objective 4:

To build sustainable and active organizations and partnerships relevant to community needs.

Collaboration will occur within programs, activities and initiatives among farm, rural and northern stakeholders, with associated increased integration and leverage of community and economic development resources to optimize benefits for rural and northern Manitobans.

- Delivered a presentation on Economic Impact Analysis to four Regional Development Corporations and municipal representatives.

Community economic development, farm and business development and management and co-operative development tools will be used by communities, organizations and individuals.

- Introduced a by-law template tool for Ag Societies to use which has resulted in 50 percent of Ag Societies now working on their by-laws.

Rural organizations will have community and industry volunteers with enhanced capacity and skills.

- A webinar workshop on board governance and additional paper resources was delivered to further leadership capacity.

Strategic community and economic development plans and activities successfully developed and implemented by community and regional organizations with local input and decision-making.

- Facilitated strategic planning sessions with Beautiful Plains Community Foundation.
- Facilitated strategic planning with the newly-formed National Farm Stress Network.
- Facilitated a strategic planning workshop for Conservation Districts (western area) and initiated a partnership concept with Conservation and the Manitoba Women's Institute on tree planting collaboration.
- Facilitated 4-H collaborative programming for youth capacity building with two external youth groups.
- MAAS developed a three-year strategic plan identifying the need to work with youth. Three youth participated in the Canadian Young Speakers for Agriculture competition at the Red River Exhibition and spoke at the Annual MAAS Conference.
- MAAS strategic planning and board governance work has lead to increased board participation and communication to membership. Fifty-six Ag Societies are now using the MAAS website and email for communication.
- Six district Ag Society meetings were held which resulted in 58 Ag Societies now in compliance with the *Manitoba Agriculture Society Act.*
- Two MAAS newsletters were emailed to 59 Ag Societies. Distribution has inspired an Ag Society to submit articles.
- MAAS strategy planning efforts have resulted in a 30 percent increase in attendance at the Annual MAAS conference where 120 participants learned new community engagement processes and website training.

Objective 5:

To retain farms and businesses in rural and northern Manitoba.

Collaboration will occur within programs, activities and initiatives among farm, rural and northern

stakeholders, with associated increased integration and leverage of community and economic development resources to optimize benefits for rural and northern Manitobans.

- Collaborated with Manitoba Farm and Rural Stress Line and Saskatchewan counterpart to develop two fact sheets on succession issues.
- Provided resources to 24 young farmers through the Keystone Agricultural Producers (KAP) open forum.
- Worked with Manitoba Farm and Rural Stress Line in organizing promotion to over 1,000 farmers.
- Increased the eligible Bridging Generations Initiative courses by 73 courses.
- Partnered with Manitoba Farm and Rural Stress Line to facilitate teleconferencing presentations to staff and farm groups.

Community economic development (CED), farm and business development and management and co-operative development tools will be used by communities, organizations and individuals.

- CED Pathfinder tool added new resource links and data, and was completed for distribution.
- One hundred and fifty-nine Individual Learning Plans were approved in the Canadian Agricultural Skills Service program for a total of 1,676 plans.
- Through the Young Farm Women's Training program, 21 Farm Women gained farm related skills through the delivery of two workshops.
- Co-ordinated Business Development Month extension activities.
- Developed a series of four business-development banners which have been used at more than six events promoting entrepreneurship and business opportunities.

Additional results:

- Delivered four Farm Succession days for 113 farm family participants.
- Delivered a series of four Business Succession Planning workshops.
- Delivered a leadership event on Time Management to Young Farmers in co-operation with KAP.

Objective 6:

To further engage Aboriginal people, immigrants, women and youth in rural and northern community economic development projects and initiatives.

One hundred young Aboriginal people will gain entrepreneurship and business development knowledge and skills.

- Five hundred and fifty young Aboriginal people gained entrepreneurship and business development knowledge and skills

One new 4-H club involving Aboriginal youth will be initiated in Manitoba.

- One new 4-H club was initiated in a Manitoba First Nations community involving 20 members and six leaders.

Collaboration will occur within programs, activities and initiatives among farm, rural and northern stakeholders, with associated increased integration and leverage of community and economic

development resources to optimize benefits for rural and northern Manitobans.

- The Northern Healthy Foods Initiative is delivered in partnership with MAFRI, Aboriginal and Northern Affairs, Health and Healthy Living and Conservation. MAFRI has supported the development of garden and livestock production and food preservation extension for food self-sufficiency. Food, soil and plant curriculum was incorporated in school programs in four northern communities. St. Theresa Point and Wasagamack received 50 freezers, provided by the Northern Healthy Foods Initiative.

- Twenty-seven northern communities with 360 gardens and six poultry flocks are participating in pilot projects with the Northern Healthy Foods Initiative.

- Northern Healthy Foods Initiative assisted in the development of five greenhouses in Thicket Portage, Oxford House, Pikwitonei, Wabowden and Leaf Rapids.

- A partnership was developed with Aboriginal Youth Mean Business and their website. MAFRI is to provide information to the website on the Young Rural Aboriginal Entrepreneurship initiative program which receives 10,000 hits weekly.

- Participated on the Assiniboine Community College Aboriginal Community Development advisory board.

Community economic development, farm and business development and management and co-operative development tools will be used by communities, organizations and individuals.

- Young Rural Aboriginal Entrepreneurship Initiative funded "A Day of Inspiration" event presenting entrepreneurship as an option to over 500 youth and supported a National Aboriginal Achievement Career Fair including MAFRI hosting a display and entrepreneurial presentation for 50 youth.

- The Gladstone Ag Society partnered with youth on two new projects dealing with web page development and leadership opportunities.

- The 4-H and Aboriginal Partnership project led to an increase in Aboriginal community requests for 4-H materials and workshops. Seven new inquiries were received from First Nation communities addressing the need to bring 4-H to their community.

A Métis economic development strategy will be established.

- A Métis economic development strategy was developed involving the Manitoba Métis Federation and federal and provincial governments.

Additional results:

- Facilitated an Action Planning Session and Board Governance Workshop for Indian Agriculture Council of Manitoba, Inc.

- 2008 Capturing Opportunities highlighted entrepreneurial opportunities for youth.

- Sixteen Aboriginal leaders representing five First Nation communities participated in an Aboriginal 4-H Leadership Workshop.

- Four presentations on Aboriginal 4-H programs were made to 94 participants.

- 4-H leadership resource material was development with culturally appropriate content for Aboriginal leaders and communities.

- Young Rural Aboriginal Entrepreneur Initiative resource videos were distributed to First Nations organizations, tribal councils and schools, and promoted at ten events via displays and presentations.

- Delivered a webinar titled "Challenges of Starting a Business on a First Nation Community" to MAFRI staff.

- Provided GO team staff with updated contact lists of 63 Manitoba First Nations chiefs and councils. Also distributed a 2008 map of the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs.

- Participated on the curriculum planning working group of Organization and Staff Development to develop "The Duty To Consult: Crown-Aboriginal Consultation - The Way Forward" for provincial employee training.

Objective 7:

To increase Manitoba research and innovation in rural community economic development.

Collaboration will occur within programs, activities and initiatives among farm, rural and northern stakeholders, with associated increased integration and leverage of community and economic development resources to optimize benefits for rural and northern Manitobans.

Community economic development, farm and business development and management and co-operative development tools will be used by communities, organizations and individuals.

- Piloted the First Impressions Community Exchange program in ten Manitoba rural communities and completed final report.

- Developed the Photo Voice tool.

- Participated on the Rural Development Institute advisory board, the community foundation research project and the foreign temporary worker research projects.

- Provided $100.0 in funding support to Brandon University Rural Development Institute to support research and community outreach projects. The funding is used to leverage other contributions. MAFRI's contribution represents only 30 percent of RDI funding.

- Provided leadership and delivery of six workshops to Rural Team Manitoba, a network of more than 25 federal, provincial and community-serving organizations.

- Economic Development Association of Manitoba, Manitoba Chambers of Commerce, Junior Achievement Manitoba incorporated entrepreneurial events within the Capturing Opportunities event.

Objective 8:

To foster entrepreneurial spirit and community pride among rural and northern Manitoba citizens.

Capturing Opportunities will reach 2,000 rural people with business, market intelligence and networking opportunities and information.

- 2008 Capturing Opportunities reached 1,408 rural people with business, market intelligence and networking opportunities and information.

- Twenty-two nominations were received and three Capturing Opportunities Leadership Awards were presented to community representatives in recognition of their exemplary work in community economic development.

- Seventeen individuals attended one-on-one business consultations on finance, market research, accounting and marketing their business.

4 (b) Economy and Rural Development

Expenditures by Sub-Appropriation	Actual 2008/2009 $(000s)	Estimate 2008/2009 FTEs	Estimate 2008/2009 $(000s)	Variance Over/(Under) $(000s)	Expl. No.
(1) Salaries and Employee Benefits	1,968	29.89	2,111	(143)	
(2) Other Expenditures	986		1,515	(529)	1
(3) Grant Assistance - Agricultural Societies	358		368	(10)	
(4) Other Grant Assistance	43		44	(1)	
(5) Grant Assistance - Regional Development Corporations	545		545	-	
Total Sub-Appropriation	**3,900**	**29.89**	**4,583**	**(683)**	

1. *The Young Aboriginals Entrepreneur Initiative, Young Farm Women's Training Program, Safe Farm Check Program and Co-op Development Program were introduced or expanded late in the 2007/08 fiscal year. Delays and slower than anticipated client uptake while programs were getting established resulted in decreased operating costs in 2008/09. In addition, actual costs associated with clients' feasibility studies were also lower than anticipated due to delays in completion.*

Appropriation 4 (c) – Food Development Centre (FDC)

The Food Development Centre (FDC) is a Special Operating Agency of Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives (MAFRI) and provides leadership in the expansion, and diversification of the agri-food industry through expertise in food processing. FDC provides these services on a fee-for-service basis for research and development of food products as well as the services of pilot plant facilities for commercial food production. FDC is committed to the mandate of MAFRI to advance greater prosperity and stability of farm families, entrepreneurs, agriculture and food partners and rural communities.

The expected results, as planned during the 2008/09 estimates process, are displayed below in italics followed by bulleted actual results.

Objective 1:

To provide up-to-date, technical information to the agri-food industry.

Active participation in outreach activities with agriculture and food processing organizations

- The Business Development Officer (BDO) attended more than 20 trade shows and seminars.

Support the government's efforts to produce a business plan to provide consulting services for establishing a Food Development Centre in India by December 2009, including technical training and project co-ordination.

- FDC is actively pursuing international consulting contracts with the states of Bihar, Punjab and Haryana to provide technical support in building three food development centres.

Objective 2:

To conduct product and process development projects on a fee-for-service basis.

Implementation of the FDC's new business model with respect to maximizing efficiency and effectiveness.

- Business model (five-year Strategic Plan) has been presented to and approved by the FDC Advisory Board and has now been sent to central government for final approval and authorization. Implementation of the FDC's new business model is expected in early 2009/10.

Fee-for-service revenues for product and process development of $500.0

- Product and process development fee-for-service revenues were $385.9. This variance is due to the FDC's on-going attempt to recruit a qualified scientist for the 'Valuation of Pea Starch and Pea Starch/Fibre/Flour Blends in Batters and Pre-Dust Coatings' project which delayed the project six months and staff turnover in the Process and Product Development Department. This resulted in 2008/09 projects and revenue worth approximately $150.0 being carried forward into 2009/10.

Development of 35 new food products.

- Development of 48 new food products.

Nutritional Analysis of 200 products.

- Nutritional analysis of 263 products.

Objective 3:

To provide education and training to industry through seminars and workshops.

Provision of FDC services within the value-added initiative in Manitoba through visits (minimum 25) to

food processing companies and economic development agencies, tradeshows and conferences.

- Presented to:
  - Eleven food processing companies
  - Eight economic development agencies
  - Five community workshops
  - Four tradeshows
  - Six conferences

Objective 4:

To provide technical and federally accredited pilot plant services for the production of safe, high quality and wholesome food products on a fee-for-service schedule.

Preparation of five Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point (HACCP) plans for new clients, and five for existing clients.

- Developed three HACCP plans and implemented one HACCP system for new clients.
- Developed four HACCP plans for existing clients.

Preparation of five HACCP plans for external clients

- FDC launched their new HACCP services in September 2008 to assist external clients with audits, GAP assessments, verifications, training, document and on-site reviews such as Food Safety Enhancement Program, HACCP Advantage and ISO 22000. One of FDC's HACCP Co-ordinators has taken the necessary training and exams to receive a designation as an ASQ Certified HACCP Auditor and Certified Quality Auditor, and has received IRCA Certified ISO 22000 Lead Auditor training. FDC's second HACCP Co-ordinator will be sent for training starting in July 2009. Due to the time consuming nature of implementing an entire HACCP System and it being FDC's first pilot project they were unable to meet their goal of preparing five HACCP plans for external clients. However, the implementation of one complete HACCP System was equal to the revenue that was budgeted for the five HACCP plans projected.

Additional Results:

- Pilot plant fee-for-service revenues of more than $138.0.
- Commercial processing - 13 clients.
- Commercial processing - seven functional foods, four meat and one liquid food project.
- Assisted in the introduction of seven new food products to the market.
- Fifty-two percent pilot plant capacity.
- Retail value of products made in the pilot plant reached more than $1,764.4.

Objective 5:

To create awareness of value-added processing of agri-food commodities.

Initiation of 25 new client contracts.

- FDC hosted 50 tours and presentations.
- Twenty-five new client contracts completed.
- Promoted FDC services to 11 food processing companies.
- Met with 30 new potential clients.
- Promoted FDC as the premier liquid food research and development and commercialization centre for the Canadian industry through participating in conference calls with FoodTech Canada.
- The FDC actively promoted Manitoba's value-added initiatives by attending the Direct Farm Marketing Forum, the Value Chain Workshop, the Great Manitoba Food Fight, and Ag Days.
- The FDC took an active role in promoting Manitoba Agri-Innovation Suite program to clients which is also a way for the FDC to market its services.

Objective 6:

To promote the capabilities of the Food Development Centre including its organic processing certification and federal meat registration.

Focus on meat and organic processing through outreach activities.

- Website focus.
- Agriculture magazines and journals such as Farmers Voice, Western Farm Family and Ogimaakaan for the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs.
- Conducted follow up activities with contestants from the Great Manitoba Food Fight.
- Tradeshows and conferences.
- Developed four organic hemp beverages.
- Developed two organic pea snack products.
- Developed two organic chicken products.
- Developed two elk jerky products.

Objective 7:

To provide Manitoba with a unique liquid food processing and packaging facility through a partnership with Great Plains Aseptic Processing (GPAP).

- FDC signed a three-year lease agreement with GPAP effective April 1, 2008.
- FDC is recognized for unique liquid food processing capabilities by FoodTech Canada.
- 3.2 million units were produced at GPAP in 08/09

Objective 8:

To participate in co-operative projects that will influence the production of primary products that may be processed within Manitoba.

Support for the development and transfer of technologies (extraction technologies) of functional foods and natural health products using Manitoba raw materials such as hemp, flax, seabuckthorn and pea flour.

- FDC was approved under the Partnership for Tomorrow II Program – Canadian International Development Agency to provide training and create a partnership with the Northern Research Institute of Forestry and All Russian Research Institute of Medical and Aromatic Plants. The knowledge exchange focuses on seabuckthorn production and processing and on how the Canadian and Russian researchers work with private sector partners to develop technologies and products in the agribusiness sector for commercialization.

Active participation in the development and promotion of the functional foods and nutraceuticals cluster with the Richardson Centre for Functional Foods and Nutraceuticals (RCFFN) and the Canadian Centre for Agri-Food Research in Health and Medicine (CCARM).

- Worked co-operatively with the Canadian International Grains Institute, University of Manitoba Department of Food Science, RCFFN and CCARM on Manitoba Functional Food Opportunities Program projects and provided study and placebo products for CCARM's flax research project.

Objective 9:

To conduct research and development projects to further the scientific knowledge of functional foods and natural health products.
Development of value-added bakery food products from wheat-based ethanol co-products for human consumption.

- Developed two bakery products using ethanol co-products.

Utilization of the mobile distillation unit for extraction of essential oils from three different plant sources.

- The mobile distillation unit was designed, built and used to provide the necessary training on essential oil extraction for plants such as seneca root, labrador tea and leaf stem, sweet gale leaf and stem and wild berries. It demonstrates the feasibility of setting up a small on-farm distillation system in rural Manitoba for extraction of essential oils. Channel Development Corporation in The Pas, was the first company to benefit from this newly acquired capability of FDC.

Additional Results:

- A Canada-Russia knowledge transfer was held to encourage partnerships to be created in common areas of interest, such functional foods and nutraceuticals, with emphasis on seabuckthorn processing. Russian and FDC scientists partnered to share knowledge with industry, government and academics through seminars, workshops and one-on-one meetings with companies. The knowledge exchange resulted in greater awareness of seabuckthorn varieties and the value-added products. It provided an opportunity for Canadian growers and processors to learn about suitable Russian varieties and their suitability for Canadian growing conditions. This activity generated a lot of interest and discussion among scientists, resulting in an agreement with the Canadian scientists at CCARM to obtain samples for toxicity testing for potential use in Canada. Canadian and Russian scientists will continue to conduct research on seabuckthorn leaves and the development of antiviral drugs.
- FDC submitted an abstract: "Supercritical CO_2 Extraction of Oil from Seabuckthorn (*Hippophae rhamnoides* L.) Fruit Fractions" by Prabal K. Ghosh, Ramachandran Gopal, Alphonsus Utioh. The abstract, along with a full paper, will be published in the FOOD Journal.
- FDC is continuing to work on a government-funded initiative with the University of Manitoba and Manitoba Rural Adaptation Council on a two-year project that involves the designing and development of food products for baby boomers. Phase one of the Baby Boomers and Older Consumers project revealed, through focus groups, that baby boomer and older consumers are looking for foods that promote healthy and nutritious lifestyles. FDC product development consultants have designed four functional foods that will address the common health and nutritional concerns of the baby boomers. FDC is currently working on developing these functional foods.

4 (c) Food Development Centre

Expenditures by Sub-Appropriation	Actual 2008/2009 $(000s)	Estimate 2008/2009 FTEs	Estimate 2008/2009 $(000s)	Variance Over/(Under) $(000s)	Expl. No.
Grants/Transfer Payments	2,338	-	2,330	8	
Total Sub-Appropriation	**2,338**	**-**	**2,330**	**8**	

Appropriation 4 (d) – Food Commercialization and Marketing

The Food Commercialization and Marketing Knowledge Centre provides services to producers, food processors, organizations and staff in order to strengthen the competitive position of Manitoba's agriculture and agri-food industry in the global marketplace. The knowledge centre provides marketing and business management services and information. It also facilitates industry promotion through collaboration and alliances, and partners in building a diversified rural Manitoba.

The expected results, as planned during the 2008/09 estimates process, are displayed below in italics followed by bulleted actual results.

Objective 1:

To strengthen the competitive position of Manitoba's agricultural industry by assisting in the commercialization of agricultural products and the investigation and expansion of markets.

Collaborate with the Manitoba Food Processors Association (MFPA), Competitiveness, Training and Trade (CTT) and the Food Development Centre (FDC) on Border Busters trade mission to the USA and on increasing local processing capacity by participation in the Food & Wine Show and Centrex.

- Worked with Agriculture and Agri-food Canada (AAFC), CTT, and MFPA on the Border Busters export trade mission to Minneapolis, USA. The 20 companies that participated in the mission attended a trade show and three of the companies exported their product to the USA.

Work with CTT to increase international trade through involvement in the development of strategies and by providing support for incoming and outgoing missions.

- Worked with AAFC, FDC and CTT on trade show seminars presented to 11 exporting companies.

- Supported incoming missions in co-operation with CTT, FDC and AAFC including:
    - India - Aadhaar Retailing wishes to pursue opportunities for Manitoba agri-food companies to export into India.
    - Brazil - collaboration in the areas of renewable energy and environmental technologies, information and communications technologies, agribusiness, and education.

Utilize the information gained from work on the Federal-Provincial Market Development Council to increase MAFRI internal capacity and strengthen the value chain roundtables to grow Manitoba's Agri-food sectors for local and international trade.

- Supported the Special Crops Value Chain Round Table by collaborating with FDC and Canadian International Grains Institute (CIGI) to develop a functional flour product that FDC has been promoting through MERX to commercialize.

Continue to assist in the India food park development program with FDC, CIGI and Science, Technology, Energy and Mines.

- In support of the development of food parks in India:
    - Collaborated with CTT and FDC in attracting three companies to attend the Agro Tech 2008 trade show in India.
    - Worked with AAFC and CTT in hosting Aadhaar Retailing from India in a roundtable with 21 companies and organizations interested in trade with India.
    - Collaborated with CTT to host an industry meeting with the Consul General from India where 18 businesses and organizations attended.
    - Collaborated with CTT, AAFC, Export Development Canada and the Indian High Commission to Canada on three workshops regarding export opportunities to India: 38 people attended these workshops.

Objective 2:

To increase economic activity through market development of value-added and diversified products to enhance the demand for provincially-grown and processed food products.

Develop a Buy Local program for Manitoba in co-operation with MFPA, Canadian Culinary Federation/Fédération Culinaire Canadienne (CCFCC), the Hotel and Restaurant Associations, the Farmers Market Association of Manitoba, Keystone Agricultural Producers, and other stakeholders

- In conjunction with industry stakeholders, formed a Buy Local steering committee that met four times to create a Buy Local program for Manitoba.

- In support of developing a Buy Local program, researched 800 Manitoba consumers on their thoughts on buying local foods.

In collaboration with the Farmers Market Association of Manitoba, develop programs that will create awareness of farmers markets while providing linkages to other government departments and social agencies that will assist clients in their need to achieve a healthier lifestyle.

- Linked Manitoba Health and Intergovernmental Affairs to develop joint programs to assist clients and farmers markets to help clients achieve a healthier lifestyle.

Develop local capacity in direct farm marketing by providing assistance with conferences, resource materials and speakers.

- Collaborated with The Farmers Market Association on informing direct farm marketers on the temporary food market guidelines for the Province of Manitoba at the Direct Farm Marketing Conference in Brandon.

- Introduced the Direct Farm Marketing Conference participants to the new Manitoba Institute of Culinary Arts at Assiniboine Community College.

Work with Organic Producers Association of Manitoba and the Organic Coalition of Manitoba to provide assistance to existing organic farmers and processing companies in marketing their products through traditional and non-traditional marketing channels.

Deliver workshops that will assist in the growth of organic production and processing in Manitoba.

- Fifty people attended three sessions of Manitoba's first organic week.

- Collaborated with the University of Manitoba, the Canadian Wheat Board, and Canadian Organic Growers on organic transition workshops. Thirty-five people were in attendance.

Objective 3:

To develop value chains in Manitoba that will assist producers, associations, manufacturers, wholesalers and retailers in increasing their competitive advantage while providing a greater return to farmers.

In partnership with Manitoba Rural Adaptation Council (MRAC), successfully deliver the Manitoba Value Chain Initiative that will assist associations and entrepreneurs in creating chains that will increase the competitive advantage of Manitoba businesses.

- Partnered with MRAC on nine workshops for 173 participants.

- Hosted the Canadian Value Chain Networks Advanced Value Chain Management Workshop on March 2-4 in Winnipeg for 14 Value Chain practitioners from across Canada.

- Identified 40 potential food service products to support value chain opportunities.

Additional Results:

Facilitation of industry seminars to increase skill sets associated with new opportunities for Manitoba agricultural commodities, food products, value-added and farm diversification activities.

- Provided seminars and information to Manitoba farmers and businesses on expanding organic production and in pursuing food processing opportunities including:
  - The Canadian Farm Business Management Council
  - Capturing Opportunities
  - Ag Days
  - Parkland Co-operative Business Conference

- Worked with the Organic Coalition of Manitoba to develop marketing programs and information sessions on organics.

Provision of information on market trends, market interest, market intelligence, export readiness, export capabilities, market development initiatives and agri-food research to staff, industry and agricultural entrepreneurs.

- Led a 'Show me the Money' workshop and webinar for 50 clients regarding government funding programs that assist clients in taking their products to market.

- Led six workshops to introduce the Manitoba Agri-Innovation Suite program to more than 75 clients.

- Created MAFRI's first cost-of-production schedules for organic cattle and crops.

Development of the domestic market for Manitoba agricultural and food products.

- In collaboration with the Manitoba Functional Food Opportunities Program, developed a DVD with recipes for the preparation of forage finished beef.

- Assisted at the CCFCC's annual Presidents Awards Dinner showcasing Manitoba foods. With more than 600 attendees, the dinner achieved the highest revenue in the history of the event.

- Partnered with the Canadian Culinary Federation in presenting producer organizations and individual producers to the federation's regular meetings.

- Worked with MFPA on seven strategic initiatives, including:
  - Distribution challenges for small businesses
  - Competing in a global market
  - Human resources – labour challenges in food processing facilities
  - Food safety regulations – hazard analysis critical control point plans for all processors
  - Food as a solution to health care costs
  - Buy Manitoba activities and branding
  - Communications within the industry
  - Development of the Manitoba Agri-Innovation Suite (MAIS)

- Produced an up-to-date Business Opportunities in Agriculture and Food Processing brochure/CD for distribution to incoming and outgoing trade missions, embassies and high commissions, and to the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade.

- Continued to produce 3,000 copies of the Manitoba Food Product Directory and more than 2,000 U-Pick and Farmers Market brochures.

Support for basic and applied research and investigations toward new diversification and value-added commercialization opportunities.

- Launched the MAIS funding program that assisted six companies in accessing $192.5 in program funding.

Assistance to organic companies in marketing their products through traditional and non-traditional marketing channels, including trade shows, farmers' markets, the internet, food brokers and food wholesalers, with the goal of increasing Manitoba's share of the overall organic market.

- Launched the Manitoba Organic Transition Program (MOTP) in September allocating $330.0 of funding to the program over three years. MOTP saw 21 applicants receive $13.6 in 2008/09.

- Published 2,000 copies of the first MAFRI organic directory.

Participation in appropriate local/domestic/national trade show missions and industry development events to increase market access and market presence of Manitoba firms.

- At the Capturing Opportunities event, led the Great Manitoba Food Fight, which attracted 27 contestants including two that have successfully commercialized their products.

- MAFRI led Manitoba development of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Ukraine Oblast of Dnipropetrovsk. The MOU will enable the development of partnership projects and initiatives to increase trade and enhance agriculture production while supporting business development.

4 (d) Food Commercialization and Marketing

Expenditures by Sub-Appropriation	Actual 2008/2009	Estimate 2008/2009		Variance Over/(Under)	Expl. No.
	$(000s)	FTEs	$(000s)	$(000s)	
(1) Salaries and Employee Benefits	467	11.00	776	(309)	
(2) Other Expenditures	283		515	(232)	
Total Sub-Appropriation	**750**	**11.00**	**1,291**	**(541)**	

Appropriation 4 (e) – Infrastructure Development Grants

This program facilitates infrastructure projects which enhance sustainable economic development in various communities in Manitoba.

Infrastructure Development Grants activities also include:

- Providing communities with technical and financial assistance to foster new and expanding sustainable economic diversification projects
- Enhancing opportunities for local value-added economic development

The expected results, as planned during the 2008/09 estimates process, are displayed below in italics followed by bulleted actual results.

Objective:

To facilitate infrastructure projects which enhance sustainable economic development in various communities in Manitoba.

Infrastructure development to meet the needs of industry.

- Contributed $666.0 towards the expansion of the industrial wastewater treatment facility in Neepawa which will provide additional wastewater treatment capacity for future processing at Springhill Farms and other industrial developments in Neepawa and surrounding areas.

- Assisted the beef processing industry to comply with the new Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) Specified Risk Material (SRM) disposal regulations and provided contributions to capital projects related to this initiative as follows:

    - Approved $577.5 for Rothsay to purchase trucks and trailers dedicated to SRM transport and excavation equipment for use at the Brady Road landfill.

    - Provided $413.3 to Dauphin Meat Processors to purchase and install an SRM incinerator and construct a building to house it.

    - Contributed $181.8 to the City of Winnipeg Solid Waste Services Division to fence the southern periphery of the Brady Road Landfill to contain SRM.

    - Provided $162.6 to Municipal Waste Management for capital upgrades required to make their landfill site in Souris fully CFIA compliant and for a temporary SRM pick up and disposal service for Valley Meats, Dauphin Meats and Benito Meats until the local SRM waste disposal solutions can be put in place.

    - Approved $51.8 for Steve's Livestock Transport for costs associated with the establishment of a SRM disposal service at the Emerson/Pembina border crossing.

    - Provided $30.0 to Country Meat & Sausage for the purchase of a truck and related equipment to transport SRM to a designated waste disposal site.

    - A contribution of $27.8 to Oak Ridge Meats for the purchase of a truck and related equipment to transport SRM to Dauphin Meats Processors for disposal.

    - Provided $27.3 to BJ Packers to purchase a trailer to haul SRM to a designated waste disposal site.

Additional Results:

- Provided $50.0 to the Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba for renovation costs for the Trade Show building in Brandon, to ensure the preservation of this significant Manitoba asset for future generations.

4 (e) Infrastructure Development Grants

Expenditures by Sub-Appropriation	Actual 2008/2009 $(000s)	Estimate 2008/2009 FTEs	Estimate 2008/2009 $(000s)	Variance Over/(Under) $(000s)	Expl. No.
Grants/Transfer Payments	2,204	-	2,715	(511)	1
Total Sub-Appropriation	**2,204**	-	**2,715**	**(511)**	

1. *The under-expenditure associated with Infrastructure Development Grants is primarily due to lower than anticipated Specified Risk Materials capital costs resulting from delays in project finalization.*

Appropriation 4 (f) – Less: Recoverable from Rural Economic Development Initiatives (REDI)

The objective of this program is to facilitate the funding necessary to enhance sustainable community and economic development in rural and northern Manitoba.

The expected results, as planned during the 2008/09 estimates process, are displayed below in italics followed by bulleted actual results.

Objective:

To facilitate the funding necessary to enhance sustainable community and economic development in rural and northern Manitoba.

To provide the necessary funding for the delivery of REDI programs and for the Regional Development Corporations to meet the requirements of rural and northern Manitoba.

- A total of $1,538.4 in funding was provided for Capital Infrastructure Programs which included $1,488.4 to assist the beef processing industry in complying with the new Canadian Food Inspection Agency Specified Risk Material disposal regulations, and $50.0 to the Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba for renovation costs for the Trade Show building in Brandon.

- Funding of $1,165.1 was provided for the salaries and operating costs of staff members delivering economic development programs in rural and northern Manitoba.

- Provided funding of $545.0 to seven Regional Development Corporations to foster communication and co-operation amongst member municipalities and other stakeholder groups, and to pursue regional community economic development opportunities and initiatives.

- Funding of $103.4 was provided for the Feasibility Studies Program which assisted 14 rural businesses, co-ops, community development corporations, and municipalities to access research and planning for potentially new or expanding projects that contribute to community prosperity, including the creation of jobs.

4 (f) Less: Recoverable from Rural Economic Development Initiatives

Expenditures by Sub-Appropriation	Actual 2008/2009 $(000s)	Estimate 2008/2009 FTEs	Estimate 2008/2009 $(000s)	Variance Over/(Under) $(000s)	Expl. No.
Recoveries	(3,360)	-	(4,350)	990	1
Total Sub-Appropriation	**(3,360)**	-	**(4,350)**	**990**	

1. *The reduced recovery from Rural Economic Development Initiatives is mainly due to lower than anticipated expenditures associated with Infrastructure Development Grants and Economic Development, including feasibility studies as well as salaries and operating for staff delivering economic development programs in rural and northern Manitoba.*

Appropriation 4 (g) – Rural Economic Development Initiatives (REDI)

REDI provides funding to enhance business and co-operative development, creates opportunities for youth, supports industry and helps rural communities and organizations address local priorities and needs, thereby improving the quality of life of Manitobans.

Since its inception in April of 1992, REDI has infused $71.0 million into rural and northern communities across Manitoba resulting in the creation of over 4,800 new jobs and leveraging $198.4 million in investment to boost Manitoba's rural economy and give rural communities and businesses the tools to help them grow.

The expected results, as planned during the 2008/09 estimates process, are displayed below in italics followed by bulleted actual results.

Objective 1:

To provide funding for community economic development/business projects and strategic economic initiatives.

Increased number of business start-ups or expansions in rural and northern Manitoba.

Feasibility Studies Program

- This program assisted rural businesses, co-ops, community development corporations, and municipalities to access research and plan for potentially new or expanding projects that contribute to community prosperity, including the creation of jobs. The program provided up to 50 percent cost-shared funding for:
    - The hiring of a consultant for financial, marketing or engineering analysis.
    - Development of a business plan.
    - International Organization for Standardization /Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point certification.

- The Feasibility Studies Program in 2008/09 approved 20 projects with corresponding funding of $194.2 and leveraging $431.3 in community contributions across Manitoba.

- Total funding of $103.4 was distributed in 2008/09 which included three projects approved prior to 2008/09, totaling $19.7 and $83.7 for 11 out of the 20 projects approved in 2008/09. The nine remaining projects approved in 2008/09 are expected to be paid out in 2009/10.

Rural Entrepreneur Assistance Program (REA)

- In 2008/09 this program provided loan guarantees of up to $200.0 to full-time, small and home-based operations in rural Manitoba to assist in the start-up, expansion, or purchase of an existing business through participating financial institutions. Most financial institutions in Manitoba participated in the program. The program is administered by the Manitoba Agricultural Services Corporation.

- The REA program approved 46 loan guarantees in 2008/09, consisting of 20 expansions, 14 business start-ups and 12 changes of ownership. The total amount of the loans guaranteed was $4,621.1.

Community Works Loan Program

- This program provided cost-shared funding to participating Community Development Corporations (CDC's) allowing them to establish revolving capital pools that support new or expanding small businesses with loans of up to $10.0. These micro-loans fill a gap by supporting businesses that would not normally have access to assistance through traditional lending institutions.

- Since March 30, 1995 this program has provided a total of $3.2 million in interest-free provincial loans to 72 participating CDC's. This amount was matched by community contributions of $2.5 million,

which created a combined community-based small business loan pool of $5.7 million. Participating CDC's provided 743 business loans, totaling $5.7 million. These loans assisted 743 businesses and helped in the creation or maintenance of 1,201 jobs.

- This program was approved to operate until March 31, 2011 and is currently under review.

The Community Enterprise Development Tax Credit (CEDTC)

- The program provided an opportunity for Manitobans to invest in their own community while offering community enterprises access to capital for start-up costs or expansions.

- The CEDTC program in 2008/09 approved two capital offerings for a total of $600.0 to finance the start-up of a food manufacturing company in Winnipeg and a community-based consumer co-op hardware store in Winnipeg. These two approvals resulted in tax benefits of $180.0 and created approximately 13 jobs in Winnipeg.

Grow Bonds Program

- Grow Bonds allowed Manitobans to invest directly in local enterprises under provisions of *The Community Development Bonds Act*, whereby communities managed bond offerings, while the province guaranteed the bond principal. This program is no longer being offered and has been replaced with the Community Enterprise Development Tax Credit Program.

- Four Grow Bonds issues are still being administered for a total of $3.7 million.

Increased employment opportunities for rural and northern Manitobans, including youth.

Green Team Program

- The program was administered by Manitoba Education, Citizenship and Youth and provided summer employment opportunities to rural youth 16 to 24 years of age. There are two parts to the program, one offering employment in provincial parks and the second, the Hometown component, enabling communities, municipalities, tourism operators, and conservation districts to hire youth for summer projects.

- In 2008/09, REDI contributed $1,791.4 to this program.

Partners With Youth Program

- This program was an initiative of the Departments of Education, Citizenship and Youth and Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives to help improve the employability of young people facing multiple barriers to employment or who are on social assistance. Eligible participants, 18 to 29 years of age, received job search assistance, training, and other work experience for up to eight weeks through participating sponsors. The Young Entrepreneurs Program component offered grants of up to $4.0 to youth 18 to 29 years of age to establish their own new full-time, year-round business, provided support services for Aboriginal Youth pursuing business development and provided up to $1.0 to a young entrepreneur ($1.5 for northern residents) to attend a business-related education program.

- In 2008/09, REDI contributed $380.0 to this program.

Junior Achievement (JA)

- JA is a non-profit organization with the goal to inspire and educate young Canadians to value free enterprise, understand business and recognize the importance of staying in school through the delivery of in-school and after-school programs.

- REDI contributed $110.0 in 2008/09 toward the cost of program delivery in rural and northern Manitoba.

Manitoba Chamber of Commerce – Youth Business Institute (YBI)

- In support of the Executive Game Challenge delivered by the Chamber under the YBI program, $40.0 was provided in 2008/09 to support delivery of the business game to Senior II to IV students. Since

1994/95, the chamber has received $494.9 toward the costs of the computer game, which has taught entrepreneurial skills to over 3,000 students.

Increased direct and indirect local investment in infrastructure and community economic development activities and related employment.

- An investment of $100.0 was provided to the Rural Development Institute at Brandon University to develop community economic development strategies, fund research on issues relevant to rural areas, and increase research capacity in the institution.

- An investment of $70.1 was provided to the Community Economic Development Fund for the delivery of REDI programs in the Thompson region.

Strategic Initiatives

- This component funded strategic projects which were significant in terms of building a foundation for sustainable economic development, diversification of the rural economy, and enhancement of programs and services.

- The program supports initiatives that bring large-scale benefits to communities and regions.

    - REDI provided funding of $155.1 for Capturing Opportunities 2008, which took place in April 2008 in Brandon. The forum brought communities, businesses and youth together to learn, network and celebrate success and discuss issues of importance to rural and northern communities.

    - Contributed $60.0 to the Canada-Manitoba Crop Diversification Centre for testing and demonstration of current irrigation technologies, field testing of crop performance under various conditions and demonstration and evaluation of specialty and niche crops.

    - Manitoba Intergovernmental Affairs administered REDI funds of $250.0 to support the operation of Neighbourhood Renewal Corporations in Brandon and Thompson involved in community-driven neighbourhood revitalization efforts.

    - Contributed $556.9 to the Keystone Centre in Brandon to reduce their operating line of credit.

    - REDI contributed $379.5 in financial assistance to planning districts and municipalities under the Community Planning Assistance Program which is part of Manitoba's Livestock Stewardship Initiative. This program is administered by Manitoba Intergovernmental Affairs.

    - Manitoba Conservation administered REDI funds of $789.9 in the suppression of the spruce budworm outbreak and to protect the long-term wood supply in north-western and eastern Manitoba.

    - Manitoba Conservation administered REDI funds of $236.1 for beach safety services including on-site water safety education and emergency response at three provincial park beaches (Birds Hill, Grand Beach and Winnipeg Beach).

    - Manitoba Justice administered REDI funds of $2,000.0 for law enforcement officers, including RCMP, Brandon City Police and Dakota Ojibway Police, to enforce federal and provincial statutes, municipal by-laws, and to administer crime prevention programs in rural municipalities, cities, towns, villages, and local government districts that do not provide their own police service.

    - REDI contributed $150.0 to Travel Manitoba to foster development, growth and diversity in the tourism industry.

    - Contributed $1,013.1 to the Manitoba Cattle Enhancement Council for matching of producer contributions and operating support.

- Manitoba Culture, Heritage, Tourism and Sport administered REDI funds of $216.0 for three major communications campaigns related to Green Initiatives, Youth Retention and Rural Initiatives.

- REDI provided $100.0 to the Winnipeg Foundation to enhance the presence of Manitoba's community foundations.

- Manitoba Culture, Heritage, Tourism and Sport administered REDI funds of $344.0 to provide funding and planning assistance to municipalities and non-profit community organizations for facility construction, upgrading, expansion or acquisition projects which provide sustainable benefits to communities.

- Contributed $175.0 to the Road to 2010: Tourism Strategy for Homecoming 2010, as well as to Celebrate Manitoba.

- Partnered with Winnipeg Harvest to provide ground pork from the federal cull sow program to food banks and soup kitchens across the province. REDI contributed $424.7 toward this initiative.

- Provided $615.0 to the Boundary Trails Railway Company for the purchase of a section of railway track for the purposes of operating a short-line freight railway.

Objective 2:

To provide capital funding for projects that will contribute to new capital investment and sustainable community economic development in rural and northern Manitoba.

Increased direct and indirect local investment in infrastructure and community economic development activities and related employment.

Hometown Manitoba Program

- This program provided financial support for rural and northern area projects initiated by communities, organizations, co-operatives, and businesses that enhance main street areas, public places and building exteriors. The program promoted the unique identities that define communities.

- The Hometown Manitoba Program approved 256 applications representing $478.4 in financial support. Program funding leveraged an additional $3,464.2; resulting in a capital investment in rural and northern communities to enhance main street areas and building exteriors of over $3.9 million.

Increased levels of capital investment in rural and northern Manitoba.

- Provided assistance to the Keystone Centre in Brandon of $1.0 million towards the cost of a $5.1 million capital upgrade to the roof structure, heating, ventilation and air conditioning system at the main concourse building.

- REDI provided funding of $2,984.0 to assist rural communities in developing safe and sustainable water and/or sewage treatment infrastructure through the Manitoba Water Services Board.

- REDI provided funding of $925.0 for Conservation Districts to develop programs to effectively manage the natural resources of their area administered by Manitoba Water Stewardship.

- Manitoba Intergovernmental Affairs administered REDI funds of $49.9 to assist communities in providing transportation services for mobility disadvantaged persons.

Objective 3:

To provide funds to assist companies through the commercialization phase of new product development and diversification in the agriculture value-added sector.

Increased development of new agriculture value-added products and businesses resulting in an increase in the biofibre and biofuels industries

- Introduction of the Manitoba Agri-Innovation Suite program to assist Manitoba-based entrepreneurs, enterprises, co-operatives and value chains to develop products from concept to market for new innovative products for the agri-food industry. In 2008/09, REDI contributed $192.5 to six companies.

4 (g) Rural Economic Development Initiatives

Expenditures by Sub-Appropriation	Actual 2008/2009 $(000s)	Estimate 2008/2009 FTEs	Estimate 2008/2009 $(000s)	Variance Over/(Under) $(000s)	Expl. No.
Rural Economic Development Initiatives	20,421	-	22,450	(2,029)	1
Total Sub-Appropriation	**20,421**	-	**22,450**	**(2,029)**	

1. *Rural Economic Development Initiatives provides funding for community economic development/business projects and strategic initiatives in rural and northern Manitoba. On an annual basis, costs vary mainly as a result of unanticipated client proposals and delays in project approval, implementation and/or completion. In 2008/09, lower than anticipated expenditures were incurred for the Value-Added Processing Industry, Food Industry Development, Infrastructure Development Grants, Economic Development and Rural Entrepreneur Assistance programs. These decreases were partially offset by contributions to the Keystone Centre to upgrade its infrastructure and to the Boundary Trails Railway Company to establish a short-line freight railway between Manitou and Morden.*

Appropriation 5 – Costs Related to Capital Assets

The main objective of Costs Related to Capital Assets is to provide for amortization and interest on capital expenditures.

Standard accounting practices, in accordance with the Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants, require expenditures on tangible capital assets be amortized over the useful life of the asset. The cost of the capital assets is recorded in Capital Investment (Part B), and amortization and interest provisions are included as an operating expense (Part A). A half-year's worth of amortization is recorded on assets acquired or disposed of during the year. Assets acquired during the year, with a value less than the accepted capitalization limit, were expensed in their respective operating areas.

The department's tangible capital assets include machinery and equipment, as well as the department's share of the costs related to desktop management and computer hardware and transition costs.

Interest costs on borrowings related to investments in tangible capital assets are charged to the department based on the average net book value for the year.

The expected results, as planned during the 2008/09 estimates process, are displayed below in italics followed by bulleted actual results.

Objective 1:

To comply with Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants standards which require that expenditures on tangible capital assets be amortized over the useful life of the asset.

Recognizing amortization in this way allocates the cost of capital assets to the periods of service provided and amortization is recorded as an expense in the statement of operations.

- Desktop Services and Amortization Expense costs incurred by Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives in 2008/09 were recorded in compliance with the standards of the Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants..

Objective 2:

To provide for interest costs related to capital investment decisions made by the department.

Provision of financing costs for capital investment related to the department.

- Interest expense was recorded in compliance with the Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants' standards.

5 Costs Related to Capital Assets

Expenditures by Sub-Appropriation	Actual 2008/2009 $(000s)	Estimate 2008/2009 FTEs	Estimate 2008/2009 $(000s)	Variance Over/(Under) $(000s)	Expl. No.
(a) Desktop Services					
(1) Amortization Expense - Transition	-	-	80	(80)	
(2) Enterprise Software Licenses	131	-	131	-	
Total Sub-Appropriation	131	-	211	(80)	
(b) Amortization Expense	336	-	346	(10)	
(c) Interest Expense	70	-	56	14	
Total Appropriation	**537**	-	**613**	**(76)**	

SECTION ONE

PART B

CAPITAL INVESTMENT

INFORMATION

Part B – Capital Investment

Capital Investment provides for the acquisition of tangible capital assets. Standard accounting practices, in accordance with the Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants, require expenditures on tangible capital assets be amortized over the useful life of the asset. The cost of the capital assets is recorded in Capital Investment (Part B) and amortization and interest provisions are included as an operating expense (Part A). For more information on the amortization and interest costs associated with tangible capital assets, see Part A - Appropriation 5.

Tangible capital assets are those with a useful life extending beyond one year, which are acquired, constructed or developed and held for use, not for resale. Assets with a value less than the accepted capitalization limit are expensed in the year of acquisition.

In 2008/09, the department expended $479 on general assets, including the acquisition of equipment for the Veterinary Diagnostic Services Laboratory as well as the development of an information technology system for Premise ID Registration as follows:

	$000s
Microscopes (2)	$ 50
Microwave Histoprocessor	22
Cassette Labelling System	20
Visual Spectrophotometer	19
Premise ID Registration System	368
	$ 479

SECTION TWO

ADDITIONAL FINANCIAL INFORMATION AND APPENDICES

Appendix A: Financial Information
Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives
Expenditure Summary

for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2009 with comparative figures for the previous fiscal year ($000s)

Estimate 2008/2009	Appropriation	Actual 2008/2009	Actual 2007/2008	Increase/ (Decrease)	Expl. No.
	03-1 POLICY AND MANAGEMENT				
45	(a) Minister's Salary	45	42	3	
	(b) Executive Support				
577	(1) Salaries and Employee Benefits	564	538	26	
66	(2) Other Expenditures	107	93	14	
71	(3) Policy Studies	37	22	15	
	(c) Strategic Planning Directorate				
560	(1) Salaries and Employee Benefits	384	427	(43)	
155	(2) Other Expenditures	91	160	(69)	
	(d) Policy Analysis				
1,445	(1) Salaries and Employee Benefits	1,295	1,145	150	
387	(2) Other Expenditures	345	391	(46)	
	(e) Knowledge Management				
1,642	(1) Salaries and Employee Benefits	1,341	1,257	84	
268	(2) Other Expenditures	263	292	(29)	
	(f) Boards, Commissions and Legislation				
476	(1) Salaries and Employee Benefits	737	690	47	
607	(2) Other Expenditures	227	257	(30)	
90	(3) Grant Assistance - Special Farm Assistance	36	29	7	
	(g) Financial and Administrative Services				
1,072	(1) Salaries and Employee Benefits	778	752	26	
353	(2) Other Expenditures	232	251	(19)	
	(h) Human Resource Management Services				
382	(1) Salaries and Employee Benefits	387	372	15	
57	(2) Other Expenditures	44	47	(3)	
8,253	Subtotal 03-1	6,913	6,765	148	

Appendix A: Financial Information
Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives
Expenditure Summary

for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2009 with comparative figures for the previous fiscal year ($000s)

Estimate 2008/2009	Appropriation	Actual 2008/2009	Actual 2007/2008	Increase/ (Decrease)	Expl. No.
	03-2 RISK MANAGEMENT, CREDIT AND INCOME SUPPORT PROGRAMS				
	(a) Manitoba Agricultural Services Corporation				
10,598	(1) Administration	9,652	8,682	970	1
46,558	(2) Insurance Premiums	47,685	36,780	10,905	2
889	(3) Wildlife Damage Compensation	1,192	952	240	
	(4) Net Interest Costs, Loan Provisions and				
1,358	Program Incentives	4,938	588	4,350	3
	(b) Agricultural Income Stabilization				
14,579	(1) Agri-Invest	18,366	14,109	4,257	4
36,935	(2) Agri-Stability	36,253	75,601	(39,348)	5
-	Agri-Recovery	10,990	-	10,990	6
-	Ruminant Sector Support	-	14,707	(14,707)	7
1,000	(c) Food Industry Development	753	585	168	
30,194	(d) Farmland School Tax Rebate	25,432	27,922	(2,490)	8
	(e) Less: Recoverable from Rural Economic Development				
(1,864)	Initiatives	(1,085)	(1,345)	260	9
140,247	Subtotal 03-2	154,176	178,581	(24,405)	
	03-3 AGRI-INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT AND INNOVATION				
	(a) Livestock Industry				
4,481	(1) Salaries and Employee Benefits	4,834	4,391	443	
1,705	(2) Other Expenditures	1,622	1,949	(327)	10
495	(3) Grant Assistance - Operating	571	676	(105)	
200	(4) Grant Assistance - Capital	200	200	-	
	(b) Chief Veterinary Office/Food Safety				
1,489	(1) Salaries and Employee Benefits	1,444	1,278	166	
1,570	(2) Other Expenditures	1,273	1,283	(10)	

Appendix A: Financial Information
Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives
Expenditure Summary

for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2009 with comparative figures for the previous fiscal year ($000s)

Estimate 2008/2009	Appropriation	Actual 2008/2009	Actual 2007/2008	Increase/ (Decrease)	Expl. No.
	03-3 AGRI-INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT AND INNOVATION				
	(c) Crop Industry				
2,342	(1) Salaries and Employee Benefits	2,430	2,127	303	
677	(2) Other Expenditures	799	667	132	
	(d) Agri-Environment				
2,022	(1) Salaries and Employee Benefits	1,597	1,390	207	
704	(2) Other Expenditures	862	528	334	11
2,288	(3) Grant Assistance - Nutrient and Manure Management	-	-	-	
	(e) Land Use				
923	(1) Salaries and Employee Benefits	809	902	(93)	
742	(2) Other Expenditures	790	709	81	
	(f) Agri-Food Innovation and Adaptation				
1,433	(1) Salaries and Employee Benefits	1,231	1,273	(42)	
269	(2) Other Expenditures	292	234	58	
1,000	(g) Agri-Food Research and Development Initiative	1,000	1,000	-	
868	(h) Grant to the University of Manitoba	868	868	-	
333	(i) Grant to the Prairie Agricultural Machinery Institute	783	333	450	12
1,118	(j) Agricultural Sustainability Initiative	833	1,039	(206)	13
600	(k) Irrigation Development	1,815	1,038	777	14
(200)	(l) Less: Recoverable from Rural Economic Development Initiatives	(200)	-	(200)	15
25,059	Subtotal 03-3	23,853	21,885	1,968	

Appendix A: Financial Information
Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives
Expenditure Summary

for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2009 with comparative figures for the previous fiscal year ($000s)

Estimate 2008/2009	Appropriation	Actual 2008/2009	Actual 2007/2008	Increase/ (Decrease)	Expl. No.
	03-4 AGRI-FOOD AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT				
	(a) Growing Opportunities Centres				
10,373	(1) Salaries and Employee Benefits	9,972	9,934	38	
3,487	(2) Other Expenditures	3,387	3,554	(167)	
	(b) Economy and Rural Development				
2,111	(1) Salaries and Employee Benefits	1,968	1,870	98	
1,515	(2) Other Expenditures	986	1,403	(417)	16
368	(3) Grant Assistance - Agricultural Societies	358	360	(2)	
44	(4) Other Grant Assistance	43	43	-	
	(5) Grant Assistance - Regional Development				
545	Corporations	545	545	-	
2,330	(c) Food Development Centre	2,338	2,234	104	
	(d) Food Commercialization and Marketing				
776	(1) Salaries and Employee Benefits	467	395	72	
515	(2) Other Expenditures	283	330	(47)	
2,715	(e) Infrastructure Development Grants	2,204	-	2,204	17
	(f) Less: Recoverable from Rural Economic Development				
(4,350)	Initiatives	(3,360)	(2,107)	(1,253)	18
22,450	(g) Rural Economic Development Initiatives	20,421	17,238	3,183	19
42,879	Subtotal 03-4	39,612	35,799	3,813	

Appendix A: Financial Information
Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives
Expenditure Summary

for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2009 with comparative figures for the previous fiscal year ($000s)

Estimate 2008/2009	Appropriation	Actual 2008/2009	Actual 2007/2008	Increase/ (Decrease)	Expl. No.
	03-5 COSTS RELATED TO CAPITAL ASSETS				
	(a) Desktop Services				
80	(1) Amortization Expense - Transition	-	80	(80)	20
131	(2) Enterprise Software Licenses	131	131	-	
346	(b) Amortization Expense	336	332	4	
56	(c) Interest Expense	70	65	5	
613	Subtotal 03-5	537	608	(71)	
217,051	**TOTAL: DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND RURAL INITIATIVES**	225,091	243,638	(18,547)	

Explanations:

1. *Actual 2008/09 Manitoba Agricultural Services Corporation (MASC) administration was higher than the actual 2007/08 administration mainly due to retro-active general salary increases as a result of a new collective agreement with the administrative group.*
2. *Actual 2008/09 insurance premiums were higher than 2007/08 premiums mainly due to higher crop values.*
3. *2008/09 Net Interest Costs, Loan Provisions and Program Incentives costs were higher than the prior year primarily due to loan provisions for the Manitoba Hog Assistance Loan Program.*
4. *Agri-Invest is a savings account program to support income stability, introduced in 2007/08, where producers can contribute annually based on Allowable Net Sales of eligible commodities and governments match the contribution. The increase in 2008/09 is due to higher producer contributions.*
5. *The decrease in Agri-Stability from 2007/08 is mainly the result of adjustments to prior years' program payments based on revised federal forecasts, the most significant of which relates to 2007 payments to the grain, hog and cattle sectors.*
6. *In 2008/09, the Province and the federal government announced Agri-Recovery programs which were designed to assist agricultural producers to manage restoration, feed and transportation costs associated with forage destroyed by excess moisture in the summer of 2008. Of the $27.5 million total program costs, Manitoba's share was $11.0 million.*
7. *In 2007/08, Manitoba invested $14.7 million to support the livestock sector in dealing with high feed costs, a decline in livestock prices and a high Canadian dollar. The Ruminant Sector Support Program included direct payments to producers of up to 3% of historical net livestock sales.*

Appendix A: Financial Information
Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives
Expenditure Summary

for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2009 with comparative figures for the previous fiscal year ($000s)

Explanations (continued)

8. *The decrease in the Farmland School Tax Rebate is primarily due to the finalization of the 2005 program year as well as other prior years' adjustments in 2008/09 based on updated application rates. This decrease was partially offset by an increase in the rebate rate from 65% in 2007/08 to 70% in 2008/09.*
9. *Actual 2008/09 Recoveries from Rural Economic Development Initiatives (REDI) are down from the prior year primarily as a result of decreased costs associated with loan loss provisions for the Rural Entrepreneur Assistance (REA) program partially offset by a 2008/09 increase in Food Industry Development program.*
10. *The decrease in Livestock Industry operating costs in 2008/09 is mainly due to lower client demand for veterinary diagnostic laboratory services, which resulted in fewer testing supplies purchased, and due to expenditure management measures, including deferral of travel and discretionary purchases.*
11. *Agri-Environment's other expenditures increased from 2007/08 primarily a result of the implementation of the Manitoba Sustainable Agricultural Practices Program (MSAPP) in 2008/09.*
12. *The increase in 2008/09 costs for the Grant to the Prairie Agricultural Machinery Institute relates to one-time funding support for the purchase of a mobile biomass densifier.*
13. *On an annual basis, costs can vary for a number of reasons, including client demand and weather conditions. The decrease in 2008/09 is attributed to a combination of project deferrals and delays experienced by clients.*
14. *The increase in 2008/09 costs associated with Irrigation Development is due to greater client demand.*
15. *The increase in REDI recoveries from prior year is due to the inclusion of Veterinary Technical Enhancement Grants in Rural Economic Development Initiatives in 2008/09.*
16. *The decrease in Economy and Rural Development from the prior year is mainly the result of one-time assistance in 2007/08 for flooding of agricultural lands along the Assiniboine River due to the operation of the Shellmouth Reservoir.*
17. *The increase in Infrastructure Development Grants is primarily due to delays in 2007/08 projects. In 2008/09, payments were provided to support the Neepawa wastewater treatment plant, the Manitoba Specified Risk Material Initiative (MSRMI) and the Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba – Trade Fair Building.*
18. *The increase in REDI recoveries for 2008/09 is mainly the result of higher eligible costs incurred in the Infrastructure Development Grants.*
19. *The increase from the prior year is mainly the result of higher 2008/09 REDI capital costs, including Infrastructure Development Grants, Conservation Districts; Veterinary Technical Enhancement Grants, and one-time support for the development of a model fish farm and Keystone Centre's roof structure, heating, ventilation and air conditioning system.*
20. *No amortization expense for desktop services was incurred in 2008/09 as assets were fully amortized as at March 31, 2008.*

Appendix B
Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives
Reconciliation Statements

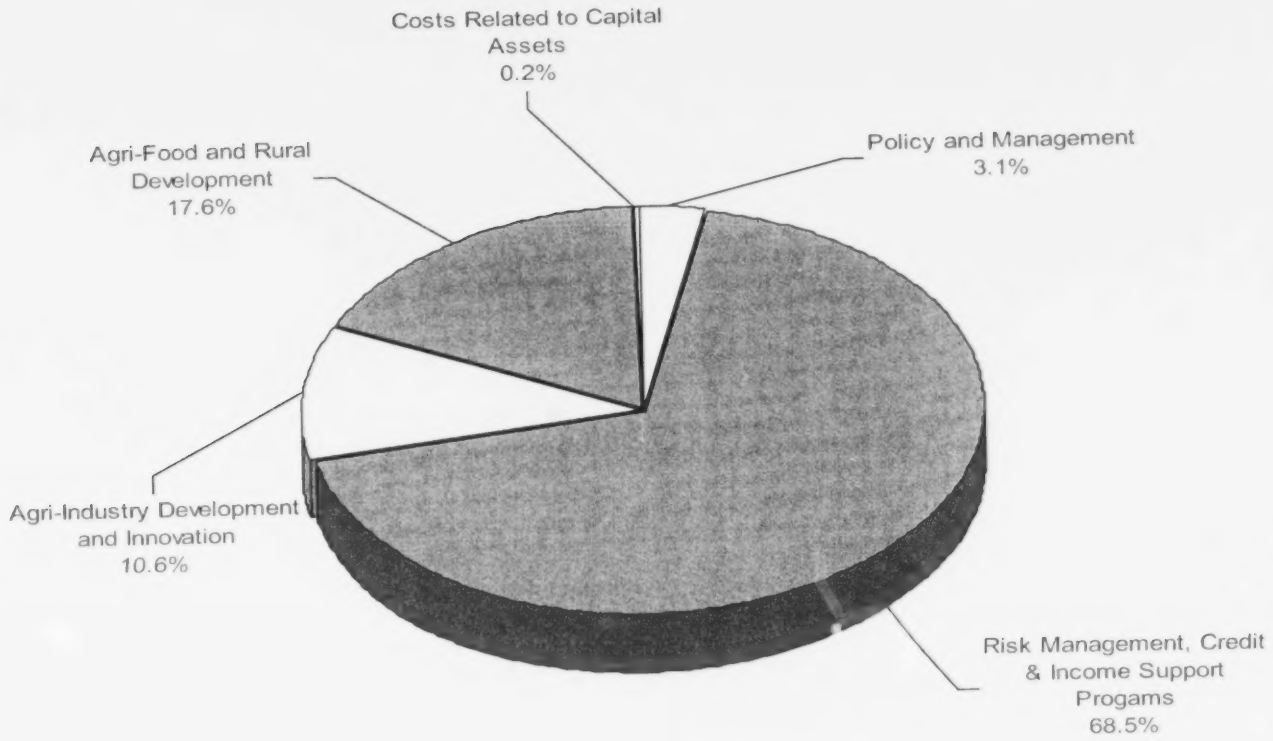
Part A - Operating

DETAILS	2008/2009 ESTIMATES $(000's)
2008/2009 MAIN ESTIMATES - PART A	217,051
MAIN ESTIMATES AUTHORITY TRANSFERRED	-
2008/2009 ESTIMATE	**217,051**

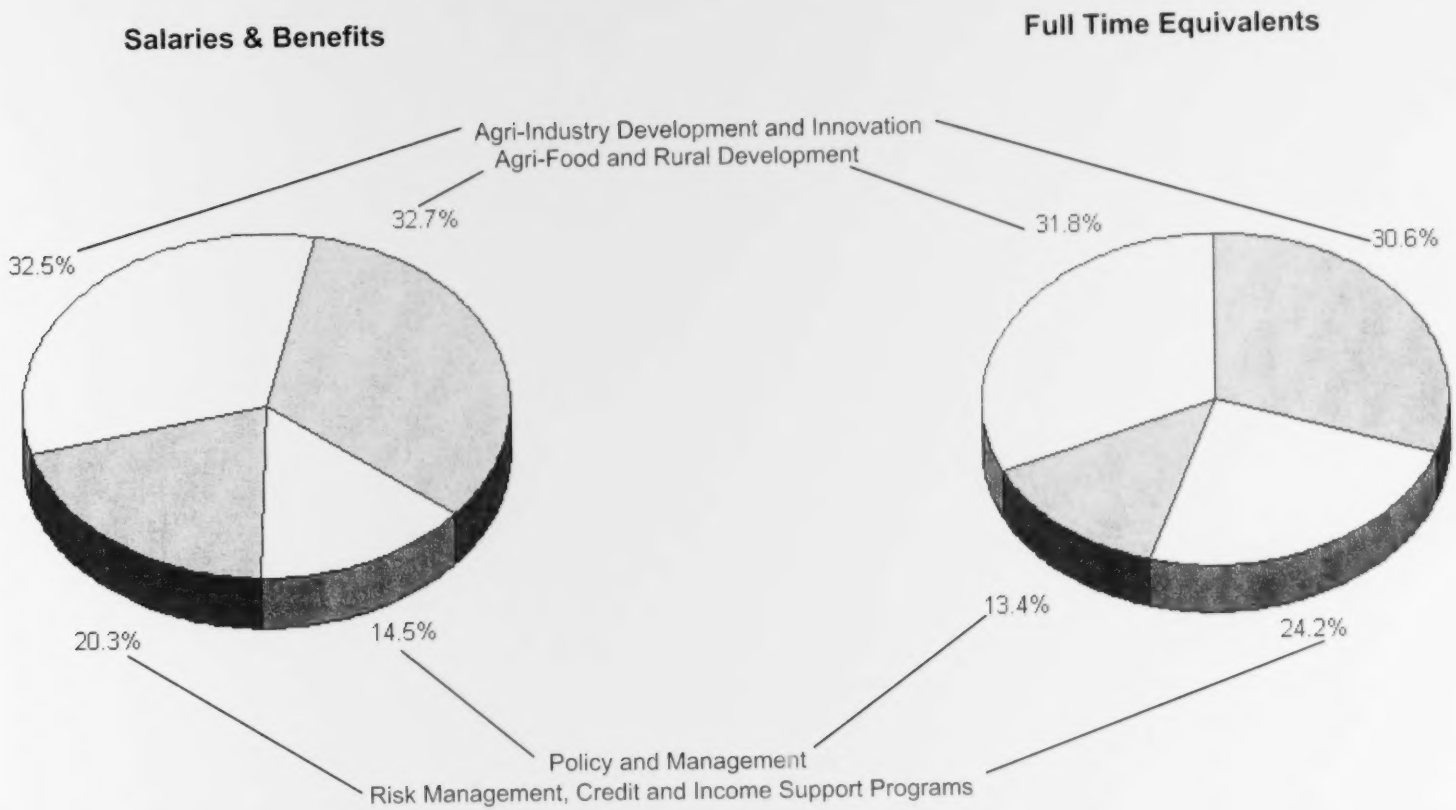
Part B - Capital Investment

DETAILS	2008/2009 ESTIMATES $(000's)
2008/2009 MAIN ESTIMATES - PART B	124
MAIN ESTIMATES AUTHORITY TRANSFERRED FROM:	
- Internal Reform, Workforce Adjustment and General Salary Increases (B.26A-1)	355
2008/2009 ESTIMATE	**479**

Appendix C
Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives
Distribution by Main Appropriation
2008/2009 Expenditures


Costs Related to Capital Assets 0.2%
Policy and Management 3.1%
Agri-Food and Rural Development 17.6%
Agri-Industry Development and Innovation 10.6%
Risk Management, Credit & Income Support Progams 68.5%

Appendix D
Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives
Percentage Distribution of Salaries & Employee Benefits
And Full Time Equivalents - 2008/2009



Appendix E
Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives
Revenue Summary

for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2009 with comparative figures for the previous fiscal year ($000s)

Actual 2008/2009	Actual 2007/2008	Increase/ (Decrease)	Expl. No.		Actual 2008/2009	Estimate 2008/2009	Increase/ (Decrease)	Expl. No.
				CURRENT OPERATING PROGRAMS:				
				Government of Canada:				
-	2	(2)		Rabies Indemnity	-	2	(2)	
54	-	54	1	Animal Health Surveillance	54	65	(11)	
97	202	(105)	2	Income Support Administration Recovery	97	99	(2)	
29	-	29	3	Agri-Recovery Program	29	-	29	6
963	281	682	4	Specified Risk Material Program	963	-	963	7
-	399	(399)	5	Soil Survey Program Recovery	-	-	-	
1,143	884	259		Sub-Total	1,143	166	977	
				Other Revenue:				
2,899	3,168	(269)		(a) Fees	2,899	3,444	(545)	8
82	56	26		(b) Sundry	82	47	35	
2,981	3,224	(243)		Sub-Total	2,981	3,491	(510)	
4,124	4,108	16		Total Department Revenue	4,124	3,657	467	

Explanations:

1. *The variance reflects no recoveries for Animal Health Surveillance in 2007/08 due to a delay in hiring of a Quality Assurance officer until May of 2008/09.*
2. *The decrease in the Income Support Administration Recovery, which is a recovery of eligible provincial Agricultural Income Stabilization program administration costs, resulted from two fiscal years worth of revenue being recovered in 2007/08.*
3. *In 2008/09, the Province introduced the Manitoba Forage Assistance Program, which is cost-shared with Canada, to assist agricultural producers experiencing feed shortages as a result of flooding or drought. Some minor, one-time administration costs incurred by the department are being reimbursed by Canada.*

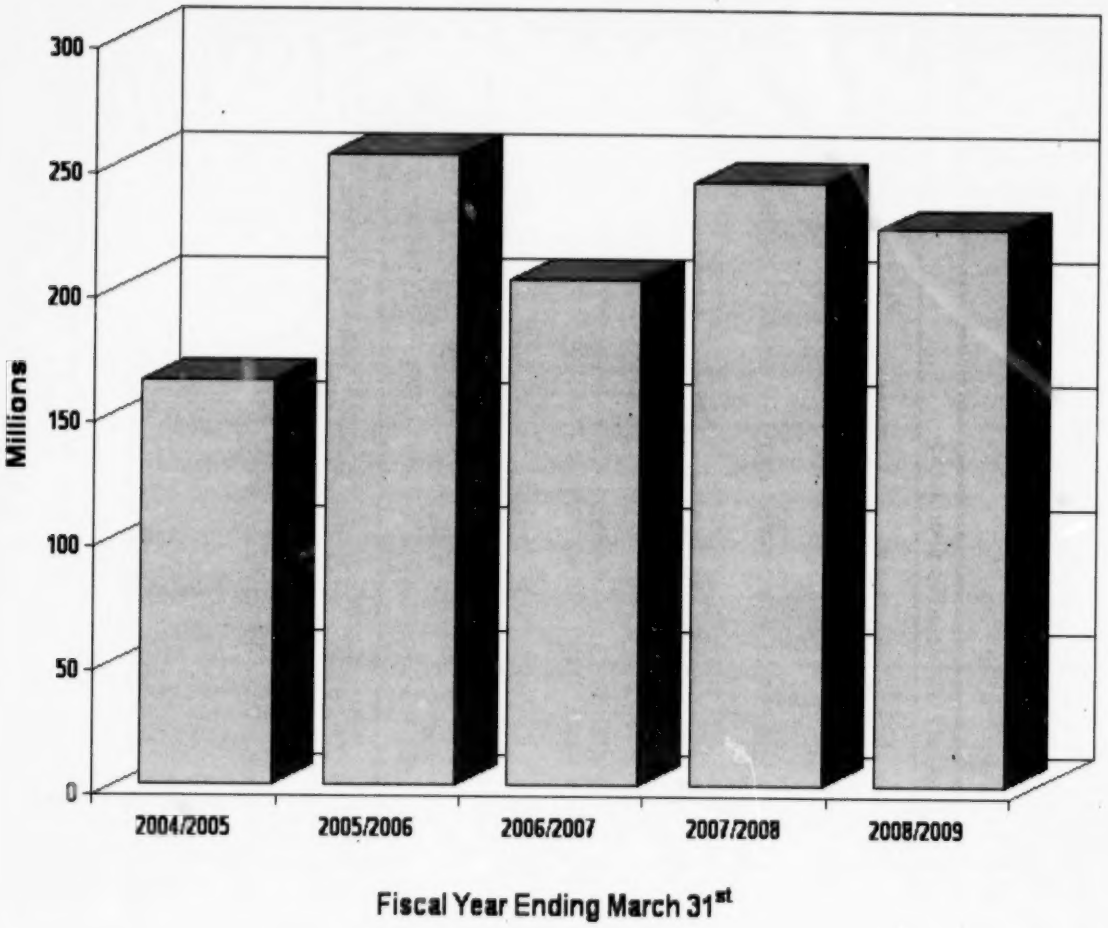
Appendix E
Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives
Revenue Summary

for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2009 with comparative figures for the previous fiscal year ($000s)

Explanations (continued):

4. *Beginning late in the 2007/08 fiscal year, the department undertook the Manitoba Specified Risk Material Initiative, which assists abattoirs, ranchers, private landfills and municipalities transition to the new Canadian Food Inspection Agency regulations governing the treatment of certain cattle tissues that are known to transmit bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE). The proponent is responsible for 10% to 25% of costs while the remainder is shared by Manitoba (40%) and Canada (60%). Revenue increased in 2008/09 as a direct result of greater expenditures incurred.*
5. *The Government of Canada – Soil Survey Program Recovery was non-recurring in 2008/09.*
6. *The increase over budget is the result of the department receiving revenue from Canada associated with one-time administration costs related to the Manitoba Forage Assistance Program.*
7. *The Manitoba Specified Risk Material Initiative recovery from the Government of Canada was not reflected in the 2008/09 estimates as the program was implemented late in the 2007/08 fiscal year.*
8. *The decrease from budget for Other Revenue – Fees is primarily related to Veterinary Diagnostic Services. Demand is down due to a decrease in testing from the swine industry attributed to the combined impact of the high value of the Canadian dollar for much of the fiscal year, additional regulatory requirements for hog industry expansion, fee increases introduced in January 2008, increases in feed costs as well as Country of Origin Labeling (COOL) legislation.*

Appendix F
Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives
Five Year Expenditure History
For Years Ending March 31, 2005 to March 31, 2009



Appendix G

Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives

Five Year Expenditure and Staffing Summary by Main Appropriation

for the fiscal years ending March 31, 2005 to March 31, 2009

		Actual / *Adjusted Expenditures									
	Main Appropriation	2004/2005		2005/2006		2006/2007		2007/2008		2008/2009	
		FTEs	$(000's)	FTEs	$(000's)	FTEs	$(000's)	FTEs	$(000's)	FTEs	$(000's)
03-1	Policy and Management	71.58	6,257	81.00	6,478	81.00	6,667	81.00	6,765	83.00	6,913
03-2	Risk Management, Credit and Income Support Programs	158.00	103,260	150.00	194,702	150.00	138,882	150.00	178,581	150.00	154,176
03-3	Agri-Industry Development and Innovation	164.99	18,474	170.47	17,659	176.97	19,943	178.07	21,885	190.07	23,853
03-4	Agri-Food and Rural Development	210.61	34,868	197.71	35,042	197.71	38,427	197.61	35,799	197.61	39,612
03-5	Costs Related to Capital Assets	-	509	-	526	-	549	-	608	-	537
Total Departmental Appropriations		605.18	163,368	599.18	254,407	605.68	204,468	606.68	243,638	620.68	225,091

* Adjusted figures reflect historical data on a comparable basis in those appropriations affected by a re-organization during the years under review.

Adjustments:

1. *The department's programs and services were realigned in 2005/06 to reflect the department's organizational structure under the Growing Opportunities Initiative to best meet local community and industry needs and to reflect its expanded mandate. Historical information for the 2004/05 fiscal year has been adjusted accordingly.*

Appendix G
Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives
Five Year Expenditure and Staffing Summary by Main Appropriation
for the fiscal years ending March 31, 2005 to March 31, 2009

Adjustments (continued):

2. *The 2004/05 and 2005/06 actuals have been adjusted to reflect the 2006/07 transfer of: 1.00 FTE from the Department of Conservation for administrative support; (4.00) FTEs to the Department of Energy, Science and Technology to reflect the Information and Communications Technologies (ICT) restructuring initiative; and (8.00) FTEs to the Department of Transportation and Government Services for the establishment of the Crown Lands and Property Agency.*

3. *The department was authorized to establish 10.00 FTEs during 2005/06 for four new soil survey teams to support the Province's mapping services.*

4. *The department was authorized to establish 6.50 FTEs during 2006/07 for Avian Influenza surveillance and outbreak preparation activities.*

5. *The meat inspection program was transferred from the Department of Health in 2007/08. Prior years' actuals have been adjusted accordingly.*

6. *The department was authorized to establish 11.00 FTEs during 2008/09, of which 10.00 FTEs are reflected in 3-3 Agri-Industry Development and Innovation for Farm to Fork Food Safety, Animal Welfare, and Agri-Food Traceability and 1.00 FTE is reflected in 3-4 Agri-Food and Rural Development for a Northern Growing Opportunities Team.*

APPENDIX H

Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives
Statutory Responsibilities of the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives

The Agricultural Producers' Organization Funding Act
The Agricultural Societies Act
The Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives Act
The Agri-Food and Rural Development Council Act
The Agrologists Act
The Animal Care Act
The Animal Diseases Act
The Animal Liability Act
The Bee Act
The Cattle Producers Association Act
The Coarse Grain Marketing Control Act
The Co-operative Association Loans and Loans Guarantee Act
The Co-operative Promotion Trust Act
The Community Development Bonds Act
The Crown Lands Act [section 1, subsection 7.2(2), clause 7.3(2)(c), sections 7.4 to 7.6 and 35; section 4, clauses 5(1)(f), (k) and (l), subsections 5(4) and (5), sections 6 and 6.1, clause 7(1)(d), subsections 7(2) to (6), section 7.1, subsections 7.3(1) and (3) to (5), section 10, subsection 13.1(1), sections 14, 16 to 18, 21, 22, subsection 23(3), section 24, subsections 25(1) and (2), and sections 26 to 34.1 insofar as they relate to the administration of Crown lands designated by the Minister of Conservation as agricultural Crown lands, including setting fees and rents and issuing work permits but excluding other dispositions]
The Dairy Act
The Family Farm Protection Act
The Farm Income Assurance Plans Act
The Farm Lands Ownership Act
The Farm Machinery and Equipment Act
The Farm Practices Protection Act
The Farm Products Marketing Act
The Fruit and Vegetable Sales Act
The Horse Racing Commission Act
The Income Tax Act [sections 11.8 to 11.12]
The Land Rehabilitation Act
The Livestock and Livestock Products Act
The Livestock Industry Diversification Act
The Manitoba Agricultural Services Corporation Act
The Milk Prices Review Act
The Noxious Weeds Act
The Pesticides and Fertilizers Control Act
The Plant Pests and Diseases Act [except that portion of clause 16(c) that relates to arborists and clause 16(i)]
The Property Tax and Insulation Assistance Act [Part III.1, and section and Part VI as they relate to Part III.1]
The Seed and Fodder Relief Act
The Veterinary Medical Act
The Veterinary Science Scholarship Fund Act
The Veterinary Services Act
The Wildlife Act [that portion of clause 89(e) that applies to compensation for damage to crops caused by wildlife as it relates to big game and migratory waterfowl]
The Women's Institutes Act

As per Schedule "C", Order in Council 418/2006

APPENDIX I
Performance Indicators 2008-2009
AGRICULTURE, FOOD & RURAL INITIATIVES

The following section provides information on key performance measures for the department for the 2008-09 reporting year. All Government of Manitoba departments include performance measures in their Annual Reports to complement the financial results and provide Manitobans with meaningful and useful information about government activities and their impact on the province and its citizens.

For more information on performance reporting and the Manitoba government, visit www.manitoba.ca/performance

Your comments on performance measures are valuable to us. You can send comments or questions to mbperformance@gov.mb.ca.

Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives (MAFRI) reports annually on performance indicators in each of its five priority areas: farm profitability, value-added, rural economic development, environmental sustainability and health and wellness (human and animal). These measures provide the public and the department with both a current snapshot and a trend of that performance measure over a set period of time. The information is important to the department as the indicators provide a high level view and information to MAFRI as it considers programming and services for production agriculture, food and non-food processing and rural development.

What is being measured and how?	Why is it important to measure this?	Where are we starting from (baseline measurement)?	What is the most recent available value for this indicator?	What is the trend over time for this indicator?	Comments/recent actions/report links
The level of diversification within the agricultural sector, by measuring the shift in receipts among industry segments (does not include government payments).	It is important to recognize shifts in receipts that diversify, rather than consolidate, our agricultural production. Diversification can provide greater economic stability for the sector, farm communities, and the overall provincial economy.	Portion of cash receipts by industry segment, 1990 (highlights): Grains and oilseeds: 48.0% Other Crops: 9.2% Hogs: 14% Cattle: 15% Other Livestock: 13.8%	Data is available for 2008 and information is updated annually. Portion of cash receipts by industry segment, 2008 (highlights): Grains and oilseeds: 50.9% Other Crops: 10.9% Hogs: 15.9% Cattle: 11.9% Other Livestock: 10.4%	Steady/Increasing – Long-term trend was towards increased livestock (hogs) but has reverted to stable as a result of declining livestock prices relative to grain prices in the past year.	MAFRI supports diversification efforts of producers through a number of means. For example, MAFRI works in partnership with the Government of Canada to operate crop diversification centres to test new crop varieties and production techniques; knowledge on emerging trends and practices is provided through extension activities; and financial and other programs are provided to assist producers to support agricultural production. The data is sensitive to price fluctuations, and the relative price increase in grains and

What is being measured and how?	Why is it important to measure this?	Where are we starting from (baseline measurement)?	What is the most recent available value for this indicator?	What is the trend over time for this indicator?	Comments/recent actions/report links
					oilseeds compared to livestock in 2007 and 2008 has affected the comparisons for this indicator. To be consistent with revisions at Statistics Canada following the 2006 Census – all years including the base year (2000) have been revised .
Farm profitability, by measuring total net income for Manitoba farmers. This measure combines market returns and direct program payments from government.	Farm profitability is important to Manitoba because of the need to understand market returns being received by producers, and how direct program payments stabilize the sector during periods of market decline. Policy and programming can then be adjusted or further developed to assist the sector in achieving long term profitability.	Total Net Income for Manitoba farmers (value in '000s): 2000 - $384,000	Data available to 2008, with information updated annually. Total Net Income for Manitoba farmers showed a substantial increase compared to previous years (value in '000s): In 2008: $724,000	<u>Variable</u> The farm sector has been impacted by volatility in commodity prices and rapid changes in currency values in the past year. This volatility has increased farming risks. Increasing grain prices have benefitted grain producers, but have negatively impacted livestock operations and their feed requirements. Total Net Income for Manitoba farmers (value in '000s): 2000 - $384,000 2001 - $451,000 2002 - $501,000 2003 - $452,000 2004 - $248,000	To be consistent with revisions at Statistics Canada following the 2006 Census – all years including the base year (2000) have been revised . While farm income in the past decade has been variable, the longer term trend continues to be a decrease in total net income.

What is being measured and how?	Why is it important to measure this?	Where are we starting from (baseline measurement)?	What is the most recent available value for this indicator?	What is the trend over time for this indicator?	Comments/recent actions/report links
				2005 - $97,000 2006 - $302,000 2007 - $250,000 2008 - $724,000	
On-farm uptake of best management practices, by measuring the percentage of farm operations with environmental farm plans completed.	It is important to understand the likelihood of future uptake of best management practices because they are a major component of effective environmental stewardship for the sector.	05/06 – 3,400 people attended workshops 05/06 – 1,317 environmental farm plans completed	Provincial data for 2008/09 continued to show ongoing and significant growth in environmental planning by Manitoba producers. Since the beginning of the program: A total of 6,940 producers have attended at least one workshop and a total of 5,611 producers have completed environmental farm plans and more than 8.8 million acres have now been assessed by producers in the EFP process. Manitoba's farmland base is comprised of 18.7 million acres.	Increasing- Manitoba farmers have continued to participate in the development of environmental farm plans and are also adopting best management practices.	Manitoba producers are leaders in Western Canada in the completion of environmental farm plans and the adoption of best management practices to improve the sustainability of their operations. Under the Canada Manitoba Farm Stewardship Program, 8,211 Best Management Practices projects have been completed in Manitoba. Producers have received payments of $38.9 million in support of best management practices such as improved cropping systems, product and waste management, wintering site management, improved manure storage and handling and relocation of livestock confinement and horticultural facilities.
The contribution of value-added agri-food exports to Manitoba's GDP, by measuring the value of	When there is an increase in the proportion of agri-food exports that are value-added, relatively less primary	Value of "intermediate and consumer processed agri-food exports" in 2000:	Data is available annually from Statistics Canada. Value of "intermediate and consumer processed agri-food exports" in	Increasing- Since 2000 there has been an average annual increase of 8.3 % in value-added agri-food exports from Manitoba,	MAFRI continues to focus on expanding agri-food processing. These efforts include investments in Food Development Centre's equipment and capabilities, support for product

What is being measured and how?	Why is it important to measure this?	Where are we starting from (baseline measurement)?	What is the most recent available value for this indicator?	What is the trend over time for this indicator?	Comments/recent actions/report links
"intermediate and consumer processed agri-food exports." Ideally, we want to see this figure increasing over time, and also increase as a proportion of the total agri-food exports.	product is being exported and growth in economic value is being provided to the sector or province. In addition, empowering producers to become part of a value-added effort should also strengthen farm profitability for those individuals and communities.	$ 1.376 billion (MB) $ 17.042 billion (CDN)	2008: $ 2.295 billion (MB) $ 23.612 billion (CDN)	compared to Canada as a whole, which had an annual average growth rate of 4.8 %.	commercialization (Manitoba Agri-Innovation Suite introduced), value chain development, support to the Composites Innovation Centre, and investments in the development of Manitoba's nutraceuticals and functional foods research and development infrastructure. Another important indicator of value-added is the contribution of the agri-food, value added and bio-products industry to Manitoba's economy, by measuring the "value of food manufacturing sales" and the "value of total manufacturing sales". Since 2000, the value of food manufacturing sales has increased from $2.492 billion to $3.673 billion in 2008. The average annual growth rate has been 5.14%. In comparison, the manufacturing sales in Manitoba had an annual average growth rate of 4.66% over the same period. MAFRI continues to focus on increasing the value of food products produced in Manitoba. In the last year MAFRI launched the Manitoba Agri-Innovation Suite to support product commercialization, and the Manitoba Organic Transition Program, to increase

What is being measured and how?	Why is it important to measure this?	Where are we starting from (baseline measurement)?	What is the most recent available value for this indicator?	What is the trend over time for this indicator?	Comments/recent actions/report links
					supply of organic commodities produced and processed in Manitoba.
Manitoba's progress towards building or maintaining vibrant rural communities, by measuring rural/small town labour force participation rate and unemployment rate.	Vibrant rural communities are important to Manitoba—the ability of Manitobans to find employment or develop successful businesses in rural areas or smaller towns is one of the determinants of whether these communities can maintain their population base. The labour force participation rate is an indicator of the business and entrepreneurial vitality in rural areas and smaller towns.	Statistics Canada Labour Force Survey – Rural Manitoba: Labour Force (000) in 2001: 229.8 Labour Force Participation Rate in 2001: 62.7 % Unemployment Rate in 2001: 4.8 %	Statistics Canada Labour Force Survey – Rural Manitoba: Labour Force (000) in 2008: 252.4 Labour Force Participation Rate in 2008: 68.1 % Unemployment Rate in 2008: 3.7 %	<u>Steady/Increasing-</u> Over the period of 2001-2008, the participation rate in rural Manitoba has increased from 62.7% to 68.1% Unemployment in rural and small town areas has been low throughout the entire period, dipping below 4 % in the last few years. Statistics Canada Labour Force Survey – Rural Manitoba Labour Force (000) 2001 229.8 2002 235.3 2003 240.8 2004 241.4 2005 246.6 2006 244.7 2007 246.7 2008 252.4 Labour Force Participation Rate 2001 62.7 %	For the 2008-09 annual report, the department has added Labour Force Participation Rate to complement labour force size and unemployment rate previously reported. The statistics indicate that both the size of the workforce and the percentage of working age population participating in the workforce is growing. The growing entrepreneurial and business vitality in rural/small towns in Manitoba coupled with an aging workforce has put pressure on skilled labour availability in rural Manitoba. MAFRI's GO Teams have been very active in working with individuals, businesses and communities to retain and increase business activity, wealth creation and employment in rural and northern communities in Manitoba. One initiative has included working with communities and Manitoba Labour and Immigration to support community immigration strategies to attract and retain labour appropriate to the

What is being measured and how?	Why is it important to measure this?	Where are we starting from (baseline measurement)?	What is the most recent available value for this indicator?	What is the trend over time for this indicator?	Comments/recent actions/report links
				2002 64.9 % 2003 67.4 % 2004 67.1 % 2005 68.1 % 2006 67.4 % 2007 67.4 % 2008 68.1 % Unemployment Rate 2001 4.8 % 2002 4.9 % 2003 4.5 % 2004 4.8 % 2005 4.5 % 2006 3.6 % 2007 3.8 % 2008 3.7 %	economic activities of various communities in the province. GO Teams are also very involved in providing business development support services to entrepreneurs and established businesses throughout rural Manitoba.
The uptake of farm food safety programming by the sector.	Consumers are demanding safe food. The ability of individual producers and entire sectors to compete in domestic and global markets is becoming more dependent on demonstrating that food safety practices are in place and are being followed.	In 2007, 6.3% of Manitoba operations had implemented on-farm food safety programs.	In 2009, a total of 7.4% of Manitoba farm operations have on-farm food safety programs implemented. By sector: • Chicken: 100% • Pigs: 99% • Eggs: 98% • Potatoes: 98% • Broiler Breeders: 92% • Vegetables: 88% • Turkey: 83% • Dairy: 10% • Cattle: less than 1%	<u>Increasing-</u> Participation in on-farm food safety programs will continue to increase. Cattle producers have initiated a Verified Beef Program – which will increase the proportion of Manitoba farms with on-farm food safety programs.	MAFRI continues to work with the agricultural industry to position Manitoba producers as producers of safe food. The past Agricultural Policy Framework (APF) has, and the current Growing Forward agreement (federal, provincial territorial agricultural framework agreement) will support continued on-farm food safety program adoption by producers. MAFRI also started to develop a tracking and tracing program in 2008-09, which will strengthen consumer confidence and the ability of industry to quickly identify food safety issues and limit damage to the industry.

APPENDIX J

The Public Interest Disclosure (Whistleblower Protection) Act

The Public Interest Disclosure (Whistleblower Protection) Act came into effect in April 2007. This law gives employees a clear process for disclosing concerns about significant and serious matters (wrongdoing) in the Manitoba public service, and strengthens protection from reprisal. The Act builds on protections already in place under other statutes, as well as collective bargaining rights, policies, practices and processes in the Manitoba public service.

Wrongdoing under the Act may be: contravention of federal or provincial legislation; an act or omission that endangers public safety, public health or the environment; gross mismanagement; or, knowingly directing or counseling a person to commit a wrongdoing. The Act is not intended to deal with routine operational or administrative matters.

A disclosure made by an employee in good faith, in accordance with the Act, and with a reasonable belief that wrongdoing has been or is about to be committed is considered to be a disclosure under the Act, whether or not the subject matter constitutes wrongdoing. All disclosures receive careful and thorough review to determine if action is required under the Act, and must be reported in a department's annual report in accordance with Section 18 of the Act.

The following is a summary of disclosures received by Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives and the Food Development Centre for fiscal year 2008 – 2009:

Information Required Annually (per Section 18 of The Act)	**Fiscal Year 2008 – 2009**
The number of disclosures received, and the number acted on and not acted on. *Subsection 18(2)(a)*	**NIL**
The number of investigations commenced as a result of a disclosure. *Subsection 18(2)(b)*	**NIL**
In the case of an investigation that results in a finding of wrongdoing, a description of the wrongdoing and any recommendations or corrective actions taken in relation to the wrongdoing, or the reasons why no corrective action was taken. *Subsection 18(2)(c)*	**NIL**

APPENDIX K
Sustainable Development Integration

Under *The Sustainable Development Act*, each department is required to integrate into its annual reporting process information about progress in incorporating sustainable development into its activities.

A sustainable agricultural environment preserves and enhances natural resources while providing maximum economic benefit within such a system of agriculture.

The Principles and Guidelines of Sustainable Development as set out in the act are:

PRINCIPLES OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

1: Integration of Environmental and Economic Decisions
To meet the intent of the principle, a department would need to ensure:

a) its economic decisions and activities adequately reflect environmental, human health and social effects, and
b) its environmental and health decisions, activities and initiatives adequately take into account economic, human health and social consequences.

2: Stewardship
To meet the intent of the principle, a department would need to ensure:

a) its plan, policies and decisions ensure the economy, the environment, human health and social well being are managed for the equal benefit of present and future generations, and
b) its decisions are balanced with tomorrow's effects.

3: Shared Responsibility and Understanding
To meet the intent of the principle, a department would need to ensure:

a) it takes responsibility for sustaining the economy, the environment, human health and social well-being and be accountable for its decisions and actions in a spirit of partnership and open co-operation with all Manitobans
b) its decisions and activities reflect Manitoba's shared common economic, physical and social environment
c) it understands and respects differing economic and social views, values, traditions and aspirations in its decision making and activities, and
d) it considers and reflects in its decisions and activities the aspirations, needs and views of the people of the various geographical and ethnic groups in Manitoba, including Aboriginal peoples to facilitate equitable management of Manitoba's common resources.

4: Prevention
To meet the intent of the principle, a department would need to ensure:

a) its activities, decisions, and legislation anticipate, and prevent or mitigate significant adverse economic, environmental, human health and social effects, and
b) have particular careful regard to its decisions and actions whose impacts are not entirely certain but which, on reasonable and well-informed grounds, appear to pose serious threats to the economy, the environment, human health and social well-being.

5: Conservation and Enhancement
To meet the intent of the principle, a department would need to ensure:

a) its activities and decisions maintain the ecological processes, biological diversity and life-support systems of the environment
b) that renewable natural resources are harvested on a sustainable yield basis
c) that those persons who have been allocated provincial resources make wise and efficient use of them, and
d) its programs and services enhance the long-term productive capability, quality and capacity of natural ecosystems.

6: Rehabilitation and Reclamation

To meet the intent of the principle, a department would need to ensure:

a) it actively endeavors to repair or have repaired damage to, or degradation of, the environment, and
b) that the department builds into its future allocations of and plans for the use of resources the requirement to rehabilitate and reclaim areas and resources which may be damaged.

7: Global Responsibility

To meet the intent of the principle, a department would need to ensure:

a) it thinks globally when acting locally, recognizing there is economic, ecological, and social interdependence among provinces and nations, and
b) it works co-operatively, within Canada and internationally, to integrate economic, environmental, human health and social factors in decision-making while developing comprehensive and equitable solutions to problems.

GUIDELINES OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

1: Efficient Use of Resources

To meet the intent of the guideline, a department would need to:

a) encourage and facilitate development and application and use of systems for proper resource pricing, demand management and resource allocation together with incentives to encourage efficient use of resources, and
b) employ full-cost accounting to provide better information for decision makers.

2: Public Participation

To meet the intent of the guideline, a department would need to:

a) use and establish forums which encourage and provide opportunity for consultation and meaningful participation in departmental decision making processes by Manitobans
b) provide due process, prior notification and appropriate and timely redress for those adversely affected by departmental decisions and actions, and
c) strive to achieve consensus amongst citizens and the department with regard to decisions affecting them.

3: Access to Information

To meet the intent of the guideline, a department would need to:

a) improve and refine economic, environmental, human health and social information related to natural resources and the environment, and
b) provide and promote the opportunity for equal and timely access to its information by all Manitobans.

4: Integrated Decision Making and Planning

To meet the intent of the guideline, a department would need to:

a) encourage, facilitate, establish and ensure its decision making and planning process are efficient, timely, accountable and cross-sectoral, and
b) incorporate into its decision making and planning an inter-generational perspective of future needs and consequences.

5: Waste Minimization and Substitution

To meet the intent of the guideline, a department would need to:

a) encourage and promote, within and outside of the department, the development and use of substitutes for scarce resources where such substitutes are both environmentally sound and economically viable, and
b) reduce, reuse, recycle and recover the products the department uses in its daily operations and encourage, promote and facilitate the 4Rs in society generally.

6: Research and Innovation

To meet the intent of the guideline, a department would need to:

a) encourage and assist in research, development, application and sharing of knowledge and technologies which further economic, environmental, human health and social well-being.

Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives (MAFRI) has a broad mandate to serve the agri-food industry and rural and northern communities. Within that mandate, the department has articulated five strategic priorities that focus the department's efforts. These are farm profitability, value-added, rural economic development, environmental sustainability, and health and wellness. These strategic priorities align with the Principles and Guidelines of Sustainable Development.

The following examples illustrate those actions that have been taken by MAFRI that respond to Principles and Guidelines of Sustainable Development.

App.	Activity / Result	Principle	Guideline
1 (c)	Consultations on economic development delivery co-ordination in Manitoba undertaken and report released to the public.		2
1 (c)	Agri-Food and Rural Development Council was established and is moving towards recommendations on sustainable agriculture, agri-energy and the health-ag link.		2
1 (c)	Developed and implemented the Manitoba Organic Transition Program to support entry into the organic sector. Twenty new entrants, producers and processors, participated in the program in 2008/09.	5	6
1 (c)	Inclusion of Food Development Centre and Manitoba Agricultural Services Corporation in departmental strategic planning process.		4
1 (c)	Natural Cropping partnership in development to provide options for reducing input costs and to adapt to climate change.	5	1, 5, 6
1 (c)	Developed a director-level collaboration committee with Manitoba Health and Healthy Living to develop policy options to impact the health of Manitobans while seeking economic benefits for agriculture in Manitoba.	1, 2	4
1 (c)	Worked with Manitoba Health and Healthy Living on chronic disease reduction strategies.	2, 4	4
1 (d)	Participated in Western Climate Initiative Offsets Committee to develop carbon offsets policy for a regional cap-and-trade system.	7	
1 (d)	Participated in the federal/provincial/territorial and industry-government committees and working groups on business risk management operations and strategic review, on sustainability issues of biofuels, Drought Preparedness Partnership, domestic and international trade, and traceability.	2, 5, 7	1, 6
1 (d)	Supported consultations with key stakeholders for climate change (Manitoba Sustainable Agriculture Practices Program) and ecological goods and services policy development.	3	4
1 (d)	Supported studies by other knowledge centres regarding ecological goods and services, climate change and bioproducts.		4
1 (d)	Prepared and co-ordinated policy related documents for federal/provincial/territorial and Canada-U.S. meetings and other meetings attended by the Minister and/or Premier, including ministers of agriculture meetings, the Tri-national Agricultural Accord, the Western Premiers' Conference, Council of the Federation, Midwestern Legislative Conference and Western Governors' Association meetings.	3, 7	
1 (d)	Three issues of The Young Farmers Newsletter were distributed and posted on the Department's Young Farmer web site.		2, 3
1 (d)	Participated in consultations led by other provincial departments and provided MAFRI input in the areas of transportation, rail line abandonment, climate change, sustainable development, and food security.		4, 5
1 (e)	The Knowledge Management Knowledge Centre continues to work towards the full establishment of a functional knowledge warehouse supported by staff in populating information repositories and in using the knowledge warehouse systems to fulfill their operational responsibilities.		3

App.	Activity / Result	Principle	Guideline
1 (e)	Software technologies that support information sharing have been identified. A SharePoint site has been established to increase collaboration between horizontal teams and additional pilot project applications in development and trial. This is improving collaboration and supports training and knowledge sharing. Person-to-person video conferencing, collaboration and chat functionality is increasing collaboration while reducing travel and long distance costs.		3
1 (e)	Publication of 17 different publications including the Manitoba Agriculture Yearbook, Agriculture Statistics Factsheet, Farm Cash Receipts, Farm Income Forecast, Statistics on Revenue and Expenses, Manitoba Agri-Food Exports to the World and Manitoba Agri-Food Exports to the United States, and other broad-based indicators of economic performance.		3
1 (e)	An interim departmental tracking system that will compile business development activities of Growing Opportunities (GO) team business development specialists for reporting on the intranet on a bi-annual basis has been developed with the GO teams. This solution will provide increased ability to monitor and report on progress. It will also be the basis upon which the requirements for a more robust solution will be formed for development in the future.	5	3
1 (e)	Implementation of the Food Development Centre Client Information System.		3
1 (e)	Participation in the federal-provincial consortium on trade statistics access and utilization continues, and is nearing implementation enabling access to additional data in support of agriculture, value added processing, valued added export opportunities.		3, 4
1 (e)	Increased capacity for web conferencing is delivering additional programming to client groups, facilitating staff communication and training. This will result in enhanced services to citizens and a reduction in travel costs for staff.		1, 3
1 (e)	Development of existing and new databases for use in market analysis and economic impact assessment for the agriculture and agri-food industry, in addition to providing outlook information on grains, oilseeds and livestock markets.		3
1 (e)	Farmland tax rebate information has been brought into the MAFRI website to make the information more accessible and allow for more streamlined revisions. Website Services provided consistent and timely information to MAFRI clients: hay listing pages, programs & services, calendar of events and Manitoba weekly crop and market reports. The flood and excess moisture information site provided links to the most current government programs and information and to topical information to help rural Manitobans deal with specific challenges.		2, 3
1 (f)	Staff provided consultative services to branches on asset management, including advising on the difference between the capital and non-capital treatment of assets.		1, 3
1 (g)	Staff participated in interdepartmental meetings of the Environmental Liabilities - Tracked Sites Committee and the Comptrollership Change Management Initiative Committee.		4
1 (g)	Staff participates on the Green Building Policy Interdepartmental Working Group as the department's representative.	1	5
1 (g)	Staff arranged and attended Aboriginal Procurement Initiative (API) training. Staff will work with administrative officers to ensure that API criteria is included in Requests for Proposals and the Aboriginal suppliers are registered in the Aboriginal Procurement Directory.	3	

App.	Activity / Result	Principle	Guideline
1 (g)	Staff participated in the Disability Access Committee (DAC) in the role of co-ordinator. The DAC will develop an accessibility plan that examines department practices and identifies anticipated requests for service by persons with disabilities. The accessibility plan will outline steps and guidelines that will help MAFRI implement procedures consistent with the spirit and intent of the policy.	3	2
2 (c)	Contributed $309.4 towards the Manitoba-Canadian Model Aqua-Farm Initiative for the development and construction of a freshwater aquaculture production system that may be used as a model in the Province of Manitoba and across Canada.	5	5, 6
2 (c)	Assisted the beef processing industry in complying with the new CFIA Specified Risk Material (SRM) disposal regulations by providing $26.9 to the Rural Municipality and Town of Minitonas for a feasibility study to determine a suitable SRM disposal method for the abattoirs in their region. The Town of The Pas was provided $13.6 toward a feasibility study/engineering analysis for a municipally-owned incinerator, and $10.8 was provided to Dauphin Meat Processors for an environmental assessment regarding the installation of an SRM incinerator and construction of an incinerator building.	1, 2, 5	
2 (e)	A total of $752.5 was provided for the Food Industry Development Program. Included in this amount was funding of $309.4 for the Manitoba-Canadian Model Aqua-Farm Initiative to develop and construct a freshwater aquaculture production system, $192.5 for the introduction of the Manitoba Agri-Innovation Suite program, $86.0 for the introduction of the Country of Origin Labeling Advocacy Strategy, $71.9 for assisting the beef processing industry to comply with the new Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) Specified Risk Material disposal regulations, $50.0 to the University of Manitoba, Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences to complete plant modifications and equipment upgrades to the Dairy Pilot Plant to meet CFIA standards, and $32.3 to investigate the feasibility of establishing a Manitoba Buy Local Program.	1, 5	5, 6
3 (a)	To enhance environmentally sound, sustainable growth, development, diversification and productive capabilities of livestock producers and processors in all areas of Manitoba, including northern and Aboriginal communities, by providing technical, business and specialized services along the agri-food continuum.	1, 2, 3	
3 (a)	Responsible and environmentally sustainable expansion of the livestock industry in Manitoba through participation in the Livestock Operations Technical Review process.	1, 2	
3 (a)	The Aquaculture Business Development Specialist is working with all industry players in order to provide potential producers, financial institutions, and other governmental departments and agencies with assurance that the industry is financially viable in Manitoba, that it will meet environmental regulations, and also to provide a training venue for potential producers.	1	6
3 (a)	Participated in the "Best Management Practices for Manure Management on Forage Land" research project. This is a co-operative effort between MAFRI and the departments of Animal Science and Soil Science at the University of Manitoba.		6
3 (b)	Established surveillance measures for significant livestock diseases in co-operation with the Canadian Food Inspection Agency, and other federal and provincial government departments.	2, 4	3

App.	Activity / Result	Principle	Guideline
3 (b)	At the beginning of the H1N1 outbreak in Canada, Chief Veterinary Officer/Food Safety created and published an online interactive atlas of animal densities (including swine) for Canada, using data from the 2006 Census of Agriculture. The link for this atlas was distributed widely across Canada through public health veterinary networks.	3, 7	3
3 (b)	Participation in the development of a National Policy on Traceability for Canada's agri-food sector which will allow the tracking of the movement of farm inputs, animals, plant food ingredients and food products from one point in the food chain to another.	4, 7	
3 (b)	Inspections of all dairy farms and licensed dairy processing facilities to ensure adherence to sanitation and production/processing requirements and to ensure all pasteurized dairy products are processed according to regulations.	4	
3 (b)	To protect the safety of the food supply from farm to fork, to safeguard the health of Manitobans and to justify confidence in Manitoba's food system at home and abroad.	4	
3 (b)	In collaboration with the Canadian Food Inspection Agency, staff worked with the Canadian Animal Health Surveillance Network to develop an on-line syndrome builder to facilitate early identification of disease outbreaks using laboratory submissions made to the Manitoba Provincial Veterinary Diagnostic laboratory. Intensive work on the development and validation of syndromes was initiated by staff (thesis topic for Master's Degree, Atlantic Veterinary College, PEI).	4	
3 (b)	In collaboration with scientists from the National Microbiology Laboratory in Winnipeg and Cadham Provincial Laboratory, undertook a study of the spatial distribution of Methicillin-Resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA) sub-types in Manitoba. The results will be presented as a poster (Molecular Epidemiology of MRSA in Manitoba) at the International Conference of Chemotherapy and Infection in June 2009 in Toronto, Ontario.	7	6
3 (c)	To provide co-ordinated program development in crop production and pest management.	4	
3 (c)	To develop and deliver programming in support of innovation in the agri-food sector.		6
3 (c)	To facilitate and support the development of value-added agri-food processing in Manitoba.	1, 2	
3 (c)	Promoted export development of seabuckthorn via Seabuckthorn Harvester Development Project. Assisted with this project as an advisor with Prairie Agricultural Machinery Institute and Manitoba Seabuckthorn Growers Association. Promoted Seabuckthorn production at Seabuckthorn Harvesting Demo Field Day.		6
3 (c)	Crops Knowledge Centre staff completed three Agri-Food Research and Development Initiatives, and one Agricultural Sustainability Initiative. The staff also reviewed proposals for 15 Manitoba Rural Adaptation Councils, two Sustainable Development Initiative Funds, and one Growing Forward Technical review.		6
3 (d)	Increased financial and technical assistance to producers to mitigate the risk of nutrient transfer to water through enhanced nutrient management, regulation and extension. Supported other departments in the implementation of relatively new regulatory requirements by providing advice to colleagues and by extending information to producers and agronomists.	1, 3, 4, 5	5

App.	Activity / Result	Principle	Guideline
3 (d)	The Agri-Environment Knowledge Centre liaises with other provincial departments such as: Manitoba Water Stewardship (including the Manitoba Habitat Heritage Corporation and the Conservation Districts program), Manitoba Conservation, Manitoba Science, Technology, Energy and Mines, and Manitoba Intergovernmental Affairs. With this dialogue, MAFRI is able to follow programming and activities of other departments of the provincial government, and provide relevant agri-environment information for the development of policy.		4
3 (d)	Completion of a study on the estimation of the Ecological Goods and Services (EG&S) program uptake, and the nature of costs and benefits for agro-Manitoba. The main objectives of this project were: to determine the nature and extent of EG&S qualifying lands throughout Manitoba, to describe the potential environmental and other benefits from an EG&S program and the main environmental practices involved, and to recommend an approach for staging the introduction of an EG&S program in Agro-Manitoba based on cost/benefit parameters.	1	
3 (d)	Under the Agriculture Policy Framework agreement, MAFRI worked in partnership with Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada – Prairie Farm Rehabilitation Administration and Farm Stewardship Association of Manitoba in the delivery of Environmental Farm Planning in Manitoba. The planning process resulted in a producer's ability to; confirm the environmental benefits of their current management practices; increase awareness of environmental risks of their farm operations; identify options and actions to reduce the risk; increase environmental sustainability of the farm operation; and improve farm production efficiency while contributing to environmental protection and conservation. MAFRI facilitated in the delivery of 440 workshops across the province. From June 2005 until March 2009, a total of 6,940 producers participated in the process and 5,611 producers received Statement of Completion certificates. Participating producers completed 8,066 projects, receiving $37.7 million in financial support.	2	1
3 (d)	Surveyed soil in the rural municipalities of Turtle Mountain, Roblin and Elton to produce a soil report and interpretive maps to support land use and environmental planning.	2, 3, 4, 5	3, 4
3 (d)	Development of the Manitoba Sustainable Agriculture Practices Program. The focus of this program is to reduce agriculture greenhouse gas emissions by 2012. It will assist the province in achieving its climate change objectives and in its transition to a low carbon and green economy.	2, 4, 5	4
3 (e)	To support sustainable land use planning and the management of Manitoba's agricultural land base consistent with provincial legislation, regulation and policies including *The Planning Act*, Provincial Land Use Policies, Farm Practice Guidelines, Livestock Manure and Mortalities Management Regulations and *The Crown Lands Act*.	2	4
3 (e)	Special consideration to management of Crown land to continually ensure one resource does not compromise another by applying the principles of multi-resource use and development. The Land Use Planning Knowledge Centre facilitates economic development opportunities in rural Manitoba within the context of environmental sustainability.	2, 5	
3 (e)	Development of policies in consultation with the Agricultural Crown Lands Appeal Board, the Stakeholders Consultation Committee and, with required input from departmental staff, directly involved in the delivery of the Agricultural Crown Lands Program.	5	4
3 (e)	Two public meetings were held for producers in the Rural Municipality of Brokenhead regarding land use planning issues.		2, 4

App.	Activity / Result	Principle	Guideline
3 (e)	To protect agricultural land and farm operations from encroachment ensuring a viable agricultural land base for present and future food production, and agricultural diversification through sustainable land use planning as well as consistent management of agricultural Crown lands.	2, 5	4
3 (e)	To support sustainable land use planning and the management of Manitoba's agricultural land base consistent with provincial legislation, regulation and policies including *The Planning Act*, Provincial Land Use Policies, Farm Practice Guidelines, Livestock Manure and Mortalities Management Regulations and *The Crown Lands Act*.		1, 4
3 (e)	Special consideration to management of Crown land to continually ensure one resource does not compromise another by applying the principles of multi-resource use and development. The Land Use Planning Knowledge Centre facilitates economic development opportunities in rural Manitoba within the context of environmental sustainability.	1, 2	4
3 (e)	Continued commitment working towards the culmination of productivity information and data in relation to the Forage Benchmarking Project, which was initiated in 2004. It is anticipated that a summary report, based on the data gathered throughout the term of this project, will provide support for innovative and sustainable pasture management practices beginning in the 2009/10 fiscal. This information will also be instrumental in supporting and aiding in the classification of Crown lands.		1, 6
3 (f)	Collection, interpretation and dissemination of agronomic, engineering, economic and environmental information in support of policy development, community projects and increasing technical competency of Manitoba's bio-energy sector.		4
3 (f)	Developed and participated in 25 meetings outlining opportunities in renewable energy for producers and communities.		3
3 (f)	The University of Manitoba grant of $868.3 enabled 133 projects in areas determined to be high priority by Agri-Food Innovation and Adaptation and other knowledge centres in the department.		4, 6
3 (f)	Business investments continued to be made in functional food, plant breeding, renewable energy, food processing and other value-added businesses. These businesses were in part made possible by innovations generated through programming delivered by the department.	3, 5	6
3 (f)	The $1.5 million Manitoba Functional Food Opportunities Project was completed in collaboration with private industry resulting in several products moving toward commercialization.	3, 5	6
3 (f)	To develop priorities for the province's investment in innovation in support of sustainable value- added agri-food and rural development.		1, 4, 6
3 (g)	To provide financial support to partners on a project basis for research and development in support of the province's strategy to diversify and add value to its agriculture and food sectors.		4, 6
3 (h)	To provide financial support to the University of Manitoba for conducting research projects aimed at increasing knowledge that can be applied to the priorities of Manitoba's agri-food and rural sectors.		6
3 (i)	To provide financial support to the Prairie Agricultural Machinery Institute for conducting agricultural research, development and testing of farm equipment and technologies aimed at enhancing the productivity and income of Manitoba's agricultural producers and processors.	5	1, 6
3 (j)	The Agricultural Sustainability Initiative aims to facilitate the conservation and enhancement of the natural soil, water and atmospheric resources that agriculture uses and shares by ensuring the environmental sustainability of the practices employed in the agri-food sector.	2, 4, 5	6

App.	Activity / Result	Principle	Guideline
3 (j)	The Agricultural Sustainability Initiative provided over $830,000 in funding for sustainable agriculture projects on emerging issues such as ecological goods and services, water quality issues related to agriculture, cropping systems, sustainable forage and livestock management and integrated pest management.	1, 2, 5	6
3 (j)	To provide co-ordinated planning for two funding initiatives – Agricultural Sustainability Initiative and the Agri-Extension Environment Fund – in support of sustainable agriculture practices.	1, 2, 5	6
3 (k)	Since 2002, the Irrigation Development Program has supported the development of 16,711 annual acres using 10,541 acre feet of water. Developing irrigation increases the potential for agricultural production. Crops which are subject to moisture stress can be grown in developed acres. Increased acreage and quality in potatoes and other vegetables along with fruit crops are direct outcomes of developing irrigation potential.	1, 2, 5	1
3 (k)	To provide technical and specialized services to producers, irrigation associations and commodity groups to support irrigated crop production and to support technology transfer and monitoring programs to support environmentally sustainable irrigation practices.	1, 2	
4 (a)	MAFRI and industry partners organized and delivered presentations at four two-day soil fertility workshops with over 100 retail agronomists and farmers in attendance.	2	1, 2, 3
4 (a)	MAFRI Growing Opportunities team staff assisted clients in ensuring the profitable and sustainable management of agriculture Crown lands, advised lease and permit holders with land management decisions, assisted clients with farm transfers and unit transfers, and administered lease renewals and conducted evaluations of carrying capacity on Crown land properties.	2, 3, 5	1
4 (a)	MAFRI, through its 40 Growing Opportunities offices offers significant leadership and input for the single window service, which has the objective of improving the accessibility of services to businesses. The program has representation from across government and aides provincial resources, governance models, and organizational structures ability to work with one another.	1, 3	1, 4, 5
4 (a)	The Growing Opportunities Branch maintains 34 business development specialist positions that provide specialized business development services to farm and rural business clients. Staff is involved in 397 extension, business and value-added projects, as well as numerous community, value-added and business development programs. In addition, each rural location has the capacity to extend production services by providing front line delivery of programs and services supporting farm and rural families.	2, 3	1, 2, 4, 6
4 (b)	Two hundred and thirty-nine youth from across the province have improved skills and knowledge related to youth citizenship activities in youth leadership conferences, workshops and events.		2
4 (b)	Fifty-nine Agricultural Societies with 12,844 members received MAFRI services and support in strategic planning, annual convention planning, vision/mission statement development and partnership expansion and capacity building within their communities.		2, 4
4 (b)	A Manitoba co-operative development strategy was developed and is supported by co-operative development community. A steering committee to implement the strategy with representation from the Anglophone and Francophone Co-operative organizations and the province was established.	3	2

App.	Activity / Result	Principle	Guideline
4 (b)	An Entrepreneurship, Business Development, and Co-op Pathfinder tool was developed, and a webinar was delivered to staff.		3, 6
4 (b)	The Northern Healthy Foods Initiative is delivered in partnership with MAFRI, Aboriginal and Northern Affairs, Health and Healthy Living and Conservation. MAFRI has supported the development of garden and livestock production and food preservation extension for food self-sufficiency. Food, soil and plant curriculum was incorporated in school programs in four northern communities. St. Theresa Point and Wasagamack received 50 freezers.	3, 5	1, 4, 5
4 (b)	A partnership was developed with Aboriginal Youth Mean Business and their website. MAFRI is to provide information to the website on the Young Rural Aboriginal Entrepreneurship initiative program which receives 10,000 hits weekly.	3	2, 3, 4
4 (b)	Provided $100.0 in funding support to Brandon University Rural Development Institute to support research and community outreach projects. The funding is used to leverage other contributions and MAFRI contribution represents only 30 percent of RDI funding.		4, 6
4 (c)	To conduct research and development projects to further the scientific knowledge of functional foods and natural health products.		6
4 (c)	Worked co-operatively with the Canadian International Grains Institute, University of Manitoba Department of Food Science, the Richardson Centre for Functional Foods and Nutraceuticals and the Canadian Centre for Agri-Food Research in Health and Medicine (CCARM) on Manitoba Functional Food Opportunities Program projects and provided study and placebo products for CCARM's flax research project.		6
4 (c)	Preparation of five Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point plans for new clients, and five for existing clients.	4	4
4 (c)	The Food Development Centre (FDC) is actively pursuing international consulting contracts with the states of Bihar, Punjab and Haryana to provide technical support in building three food development centres.	7	
4 (c)	Support for the development and transfer of technologies (extraction technologies) of functional foods and natural health products using Manitoba raw materials such as hemp, flax, seabuckthorn and pea flour.		1, 6
4 (c)	A Canada-Russia knowledge transfer was held to encourage partnerships to be created in common areas of interest, such as functional foods and nutraceuticals, with emphasis on seabuckthorn processing. Russian and Food Development Centre scientists partnered to share knowledge with industry, government and academics through seminars, workshops and one-on-one meetings with companies. The knowledge exchange resulted in greater awareness of seabuckthorn varieties and the value-added products. It provided an opportunity for Canadian growers and processors to learn about suitable Russian varieties and their suitability for Canadian growing conditions. This activity generated a lot of interest and discussion among scientists, resulting in an agreement with the Canadian scientists at the Canadian Centre for Agri-Food Research in Health and Medicine to obtain samples for toxicity testing for potential use in Canada. Canadian and Russian scientists will continue to conduct research on seabuckthorn leaves and the development of antiviral drugs.	3, 5, 7	3, 6

App.	Activity / Result	Principle	Guideline
4 (c)	The Food Development Centre was approved under the Partnership for Tomorrow II Program – Canadian International Development Agency to provide training and create a partnership with the Northern Research Institute of Forestry and All Russian Research Institute of Medical and Aromatic Plants. The knowledge exchange focuses on seabuckthorn production and processing and on how the Canadian and Russian researchers work with private sector partners to develop technologies and products in the agribusiness sector for commercialization.	3, 7	6
4 (d)	To increase economic activity through market development of value-added and diversified products to enhance the demand for provincially grown and processed food products.		1
4 (d)	To develop value chains in Manitoba that will assist producers, associations, manufacturers, wholesalers and retailers in increasing their competitive advantage while providing a greater return to farmers.	5	1
4 (e)	To facilitate infrastructure projects which enhance sustainable economic development in various communities in Manitoba.	3	1
4 (g)	An investment of $100.0 was provided to the Rural Development Institute at Brandon University to develop community economic development strategies, fund research on issues relevant to rural areas, and increase research capacity in the institution.		6
4 (g)	To provide capital funding for projects that will contribute to new capital investment and sustainable community economic development in rural and northern Manitoba.	1, 3, 5	
4 (g)	Rural Economic Development Initiatives provided funding of $2,984.0 to assist rural communities in developing safe and sustainable water and/or sewage treatment infrastructure through the Manitoba Water Services Board.	3, 5	1
4 (g)	Rural Economic Development Initiatives provided funding of $925.0 for Conservation Districts to develop programs to effectively manage the natural resources of their area administered by Manitoba Water Stewardship.	1, 2, 3	1